

Pecyn Dogfen Gyhoeddus



Swyddog Cyswllt:
Janet Kelly 01352 702301
janet.kelly@flintshire.gov.uk

At: Cyng David Healey (Cadeirydd)

Y Cynghorwyr: Janet Axworthy, Sian Braun, Paul Cunningham, Carol Ellis, Gladys Healey, Joe Johnson, Tudor Jones, Dave Mackie, Ian Smith, Martin White a David Williams

Aelodau Cyfetholedig:

Lynn Bartlett, David Hytch, Rebecca Stark and Wendy White

Dydd Gwener, 30 Hydref 2020

Annwyl Gynghorydd

HYSBYSIAD O GYFARFOD ANGHYSBELL
PWYLLGOR TROSOLWG A CHRAFFU ADDYSG, IEUENCTID A DIWYLLIANT
DYDD IAU, 5 TACHWEDD, 2020 AM 2.00 PM

Yn gywir

Robert Robins
Rheolwr Gwasanaethau Democraidd

Sylwch: Oherwydd y cyfyngiadau presennol ar deithio a'r gofyniad am gadw pellter corfforol, ni chynhelir y cyfarfod hwn yn y lleoliad arferol. Bydd hwn yn gyfarfod rhithiol a bydd 'presenoldeb' yn gyfyngedig i Aelodau'r Pwyllgor yn unig. Bydd y cyfarfod yn cael ei recordio.

Os oes gennych unrhyw ymholiadau, cysylltwch ag aelod o'r Tîm Gwasanaethau Democraidd ar 01352 702345.

R H A G L E N

1 YMDDIHEURIADAU

Pwrpas: I dderbyn unrhyw ymddiheuriadau.

2 DATGAN CYSYLLTIAD (GAN GYNNWYS DATGANIADAU CHWIPIO)

Pwrpas: I dderbyn unrhyw ddatganiad o gysylltiad a chynghori'r Aelodau yn unol a hynny.

3 COFNODION (Tudalennau 5 - 10)

Pwrpas: I gadarnhau, fel cofnod cywir gofnodion y cyfarfodydd ar 24 Medi 2020.

4 BRIFFIO YNGHYLCH SEFYLLFA FRYS (LLAFAR)

Pwrpas: Rhoi diweddariad ar y sefyllfa ddiweddaraf a'r risgiau a'r goblygiadau i Sir y Fflint a pharhad busnes a gwasanaeth.

5 RHAGLEN GWAITH I'R DYFODOL A OLRHAIN GWEITHRED (Tudalennau 11 - 22)

Adroddiad Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator

Pwrpas: I Ystyried y flaenraglen waith Pwyllgor Trosolwg a Chraffu Addysg, leuenctid a Diwylliant a rhoi gwybodaeth i'r Pwyllgor o'r cynnydd yn erbyn camau gweithredu o'r cyfarfod blaenorol.

6 CYLLIDEB 2021/22 - CAM 1 (Tudalennau 23 - 46)

Adroddiad Prif Swyddog (Addysg ac leuenctid), Prif Weithredwr, Rheolwr Cyllid Corfforaethol - Arweinydd y Cyngor ac Aelod Cabinet Addysg

Pwrpas: Bod y Pwyllgor yn adolygu ac yn gwneud sylw am bwysau ariannol Gwasanaeth Addysg, leuenctid a Diwylliant a strategaeth gyffredinol y gyllideb. Ac yn rhoi cyngor am unrhyw feysydd o effeithlonrwydd costau yr hoffai weld yn cael eu harchwilio ymhellach.

7 BALANSAU WRTH GEFN YSGOLION BLWYDDYN YN DIWEDDU 31 MAWRTH 2020 A PHROTocol AR GYFER YSGOLION MEWN ANAWSTERAU ARIANNOL (Tudalennau 47 - 64)

Adroddiad Prif Swyddog (Addysg ac leuenctid) - Arweinydd y Cyngor ac Aelod Cabinet Addysg

Pwrpas: Rhoi manylion i'r Pwyllgor o falansau ysgolion Sir y Fflint ar ôl cau ar ddiwedd y flwyddyn ariannol.

8 DIWEDDARIAD STRATEGAETH ADFERIAD (Tudalennau 65 - 84)

Adroddiad Prif Swyddog (Addysg ac Ieuencid) - Arweinydd y Cyngor ac Aelod Cabinet Addysg

Pwrpas: Darparu goruchwyliaeth ar gyfer cynllunio adferiad ar gyfer portffolio(s) y Pwyllgor.

9 GWASANAETHAU IEUENCTID (Tudalennau 85 - 92)

Adroddiad Prif Swyddog (Addysg ac Ieuencid) - Arweinydd y Cyngor ac Aelod Cabinet Addysg

Pwrpas: Rhoi gwybod am y newidiadau i ddarpariaeth gwasanaethau ieuencid o ganlyniad i'r argyfwng presennol.

DEDDF LLYWODRAETH LEOL (MYNEDIAD I WYBODAETH) 1985 - YSTYRIED GWAHARDD Y WASG A'R CYHOEDD

Mae'r eitem a ganlyn yn cael ei hystyried yn eitem eithriedig yn rhinwedd Paragraff(au) 15 Rhan 4 Atodiad 12A o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol 1972 (fel y cafodd ei diwygio).

Mae budd y cyhoedd mewn dal y wybodaeth yn ôl yn gorbwyso budd y cyhoedd mewn datgelu nes bod yr ymgynghoriadau / trafodaethau hynny wedi dod i ben.

10 MODEL CYFLENWI AMGEN YMDDIRIEDOLAETH THEATR CLWYD (Tudalennau 93 - 106)

Adroddiad Prif Weithredwr - Arweinydd y Cyngor ac Aelod Cabinet Addysg, Aelod Cabinet Datblygu Economaidd

Pwrpas: Rhoi'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf ar y cynnydd hyd yma ar y rhaglen i drosglwyddo Theatr Clwyd a Gwasanaethau Cerdd o reolaeth y cyngor i fodel ymddiriedolaeth elusenol a chynnig amserlen a thelerau trosglwyddo.

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn bwrpasol

Eitem ar gyfer y Rhaglen 3

EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE **24 SEPTEMBER 2020**

Minutes of the meeting of the Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council held in the Delyn Room, County Hall, Mold on Thursday 24th September 2020.

PRESENT: Councillor David Healey (Chair)

Janet Axworthy Sian Braun, Carol Ellis, Gladys Healey, Joe Johnson, Dave Mackie, Ian Smith, Martin White and David Williams

CO-OPTED MEMBERS: Lynn Bartlett and David Hytch,

APOLOGY: Wendy White

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Patrick Heesom present as an observer

SUBSTITUTIONS: Councillors Sean Bibby (for Paul Cunningham) and Kevin Hughes (for Tudor Jones)

CONTRIBUTORS: Councillor Ian Roberts, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education; Chief Executive; Chief Officer (Education & Youth); Senior Manager – Business Change and Support; Senior Manager – Inclusion and Progression) and Senior Manager School Improvement Systems

IN ATTENDANCE:

Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator and Democratic Services Support Officer

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

The Facilitator advised that it had been confirmed at the Annual Meeting of the County Council that the Chair of the Committee should come from the Labour Group. The Committee was advised that Councillor David Healey had been appointed to this role for the municipal year.

RESOLVED:

That the appointment of Councillor David Healey as Chair of the Committee be noted.

2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR

Councillor Martin White nominated Mr. David Hytch as Vice-Chair of the Committee and this was seconded by Mrs. Lynn Bartlett. There were no further nominations. On being put to the vote, this was carried.

RESOLVED:

That Mr. David Hytch be appointed Vice-Chair of the Committee.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None.

4. MINUTES

The minutes of the 30th January 2020 were received.

Matters arising

Page 3 - Mr David Hytch referred to his comment and asked that they be changed to read "Mr Hytch referred to the graph which he felt was open to misinterpretation"

Councillor Dave Mackie proposed that subject to the amendment listed above, the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. The proposal was seconded by Councillor Gladys Healey.

RESOLVED:

That, subject to the amendment listed above, the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. EMERGENCY SITUATION BRIEFING (Verbal)

The Chief Executive explained that the current situation was fluid. He and his Chief Officer colleagues would be ensuring that Members received short up to date verbal briefings at the start of meetings. He also commented that it may yet be necessary to reinstate the situational briefings which had been delivered to members during the first six months of the emergency'.

The Chair praised the Chief Executive and Officers of the Council for their hard work in very challenging circumstances.

RESOLVED:

That the verbal update be noted.

6. TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE COMMITTEE

The Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator presented the report to receive the revised terms of reference for the Committee as agreed by Council. At the Council's Annual Meeting, Chairs had been appointed to the five Overview & Scrutiny committees within the new structure with amended terms of reference. Changes to the remit of this Committee included the addition of Libraries Culture and Heritage (including Archives and Museums), Leisure Services (including leisure and sports centres, swimming pools and recreational facilities), Theatr Clwyd and Aura (including Holywell Leisure Centre and Cambrian Aquatics).

The recommendation was moved by David Hytch and seconded by Councillor Martin White.

RESOLVED:

That the terms of reference, as agreed by Council and appended to the report, be noted.

7. RECOVERY STRATEGY

The Chief Executive presented a report to provide the Committee with oversight of recovery planning for its portfolio areas as part of the strategy for the resumption of full democratic governance. Feedback from each of the Overview & Scrutiny committees on the risk registers, recovery priorities and revised performance indicator targets for their respective areas would be reported to Cabinet prior to publication of a full Recovery Strategy.

A presentation showing the handover from response to recovery covered the following points:

- Recommendations from Cabinet
- Objectives of the Recovery Strategy
- Response Objectives
- Examples of local achievements in Response
- Recovery - handover arrangements
- Regional and Local Recovery Structures
- Recovery Objectives - Services
- Recovery Activities
- Community Recovery
- Council Plan and Performance
- Democratic Governance of Recovery

The Chief Officer (Education & Youth) gave a presentation on the risk register for the service portfolio which covered the following:

- Education & Youth Portfolio Risks
- Current Risks
- Recovery Risks
- Governance/Legal
- Workforce

The Chief Executive suggested that Members consider risks of ongoing concern and how best to report them to the Committee to inform the forward work programme. The Chief Officer and Senior Managers provided an overview of the immediate strategic priorities for recovery which were recommended for inclusion in the Recovery Strategy.

Councillor Dave Mackie thanked the Chief Executive, Chief Officer and Senior Officers for their comments and praised the way the authority had responded during the emergency situation. He commented on the targeted advice on safeguarding which had been provided to head teachers which had enabled them to maintain

contact and relationships with families whilst the schools were closed to ensure referrals continued. He said that the risk around workforce absence would need continual monitoring to ensure minimal impact to service delivery. A number of Members of the Committee spoke in support of Councillor Mackie's comments.

Speaking in support of Councillor Mackie's comments, David Hytch commended the efforts of the authority. He commented on the risk around secondary schools not being financially viable due to insufficient base funding and questioned whether the distribution formula was being re-examined. Whilst he supported this, he did not feel that this would sufficiently assist schools if the starting budget remained low. He also asked if the pay award for teachers would be fully funded by Welsh Government (WG) and raised concerns on the impact to school budgets if it was not.

The Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education reported that WG had committed to funding between 2-2.5% of the teachers' pay award. The total increase equated to additional funding of 3.1%, therefore the authority would need to fund the difference. There was concern around funding for the full effect of 3.1% for the 2021/22 financial year if additional funding was not provided by WG.

The Chief Executive reported that the non-teachers Green Book pay award was covered and there was provision within reserves for the extra amount for this year having budgeted on 2% and it came in at 2.75% which was around £800,000 in additional funding. Looking at those figures there may have to be some risk share in the remaining part of the teachers' uplift which we would have to share with schools.

The Chair commented on the additional costs incurred by schools because of the emergency situation and asked whether additional funding from WG was sufficient to meet their needs. The Chief Officer reported on the funding streams available to schools to claim for particular items of expenditure specific in supporting their response to the emergency situation. She also explained that additional funding had been provided for emotional health and well-being to increase counselling capacity which was key in learners successfully re-engaging in education. The Chief Executive explained the process in requesting additional funding from WG and the challenges made to eligibility. He advised that the authority had been successful in submitting funding claims which were supported by WG.

In response to a question around positive Coronavirus cases in schools, the Chief Officer confirmed there were less than 10 reported cases and no evidence of transmission within schools. The Chief Officer outlined the support provided to schools should a pupil receive a positive Coronavirus test and explained that best practice was shared between schools.

Councillor Gladys Healey asked what support was in place for children who were in hospital and how were young carers who looked after their parents being supported. The Senior Manager (Inclusion and Progression) explained that a child in hospital would receive an offer of education which was provided through the hospital system but funded by the authority. The education provision needed was tailored to each individual child's needs with home tuition provided for children who were

recuperating at home. The Chief Officer explained that support for young carers was provided via the Integrated Youth Service and provided information on the card scheme where young carers could discreetly let teachers and schools know if they were struggling. Schools had been mindful of this and at the beginning of the emergency situation resources had been provided to support young carers during this time

The Chair commended the support provided to young carers through social services but asked whether the risk to continue to support them should be included within both the Education & Youth portfolio and Social Services risk registers. The Chief Officer agreed to consider this with the Senior Management Team to assess whether this was a risk which should be included on our risk register or whether this was already being captured through the portfolios business as usual.

In response to a question around the number of child care providers, the Chief Officer explained that this had been carefully considered to establish whether this would pose a significant risk but reported that the WG had provided funding through the Coronavirus Childcare Assistance Scheme for the provision of emergency childcare for children under the age of 4 which many playgroups and nurseries had taken advantage of. As additional funding came to an end, WG had reinstated schemes such as The Early Entitlement Offer for Early Education and the 30 hours Childcare Offer which these businesses had been able to take advantage of. This had been monitored by the Childcare Team to establish if there had been a significant impact with some businesses failing to re-open. The Senior Manager (School Improvement Systems) confirmed this was being kept under review and that because of the strategies and support already in place with providers this had enabled them to be in a much stronger position.

Councillor David Williams raised concerns around direct payments and sought assurances that they were reaching the most vulnerable children within the County. The Chief Officer reported that WG had responded quickly to ensure that those families who received school meals were not greatly impacted during lockdown and had continued to receive that support. Discussion had been held with WG to ensure that direct payments continued until schools returned fully on the 14th September. The Revenues and Benefits team had identified families entitled to this support through the applications for benefits and it had enabled payments to be made directly into the bank accounts of those families.

The Leader of the Council praised WG for their support for families who received free school meals and their priority to continue to support vulnerable learners.

Councillor Ian Smith asked how many learners had experienced difficulties in engaging or accessing remote learning. The Chief Officer reported that during the beginning of the emergency situation work was undertaken to identify those learners who did not have access to digital devices. Resources from the Hub Infrastructure Project were repurposed for those learners and MiFi devices were provided which enabled them to access online learning. The Senior Manager (School Improvement Systems) explained that GwE were supporting schools to ensure they had appropriate materials and resources to support learners for any circumstance where

they needed to work from home. Work on resilience and support for smaller schools and sharing resources was also progressing.

The Chief Officer thanked the Senior Management Team who had worked extremely hard to support schools and childcare settings through this difficult time. She also extended her thanks to schools explaining the work carried out by Head Teachers to support pupils in continuing to deliver the curriculum and commented on their enthusiasm to having learners back in a classroom setting. The Leader also wished to add his thanks to all involved in supporting learners during the emergency situation and reported that over the last three weeks, 23,000 children had returned to classroom settings across the County, with an approximate attendance rate of 86%. He thanked the Chief Officer for her leadership and dedication during the difficult and challenging time.

The Chair sought a proposal to support the recommendations outlined within the report and suggested an additional recommendation – That the Committee commends the portfolio team in dealing with the emergency response and its work towards future priorities which include young people who were homeless and child poverty. This recommendation, together with the recommendations outlined within the report were proposed by Councillor Janet Axworthy and seconded by David Hytch.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Committee commends the portfolio team in dealing with the emergency response and its work towards future priorities which include young people who were homeless and child poverty;
- (b) That the full set of immediate strategic priorities for recovery of the portfolio, as set out in the report be agreed, together with the risk analysis and mitigation actions both live and planned; and
- (c) That a forward work programme for the Committee be rebuilt for the remainder of the 2020/21 Council year with recovery planning at its core.

8. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS IN ATTENDANCE

There was no members of the press in attendance.

(The meeting started at 2.00 pm and ended at 3.51 pm)

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Chairman

Eitem ar gyfer y Rhaglen 5



EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday 5 th November, 2020
Report Subject	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking
Cabinet Member	Not applicable
Report Author	Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview & Scrutiny presents a unique opportunity for Members to determine the Forward Work programme of the Committee of which they are Members. By reviewing and prioritising the Forward Work Programme Members are able to ensure it is Member-led and includes the right issues. A copy of the Forward Work Programme is attached at Appendix 1 for Members' consideration which has been updated following the last meeting.

The Committee is asked to consider, and amend where necessary, the Forward Work Programme for the Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

The report also shows actions arising from previous meetings of the Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the progress made in completing them. Any outstanding actions will be continued to be reported to the Committee as shown in Appendix 2.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That the Committee considers the draft Forward Work Programme and approve/amend as necessary.
2	That the Facilitator, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee be authorised to vary the Forward Work Programme between meetings, as the need arises.
3	That the Committee notes the progress made in completing the outstanding actions.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKING
1.01	Items feed into a Committee's Forward Work Programme from a number of sources. Members can suggest topics for review by Overview & Scrutiny Committees, members of the public can suggest topics, items can be referred by the Cabinet for consultation purposes, or by County Council or Chief Officers. Other possible items are identified from the Cabinet Work Programme and the Improvement Plan.
1.02	<p>In identifying topics for future consideration, it is useful for a 'test of significance' to be applied. This can be achieved by asking a range of questions as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Will the review contribute to the Council's priorities and/or objectives?2. Is it an area of major change or risk?3. Are there issues of concern in performance?4. Is there new Government guidance of legislation?5. Is it prompted by the work carried out by Regulators/Internal Audit?6. Is the issue of public or Member concern?
1.03	In previous meetings, requests for information, reports or actions have been made. These have been summarised as action points. Following a meeting of the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee in July 2018, it was recognised that there was a need to formalise such reporting back to Overview & Scrutiny Committees, as 'Matters Arising' was not an item which can feature on an agenda.
1.04	It was suggested that the 'Action tracking' approach be trialled for the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee. Following a successful trial, it was agreed to extend the approach to all Overview & Scrutiny Committees.
1.05	The Action Tracking details including an update on progress is attached at Appendix 2.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	None as a result of this report.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	In some cases, action owners have been contacted to provide an update on their actions.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	None as a result of this report.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – Draft Forward Work Programme Appendix 2 – Action Tracking for the Education, Youth & Culture OSC.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Minutes of previous meetings of the Committee as identified in Appendix 2. Contact Officer: Ceri Shotton Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator Telephone: 01352 702305 E-mail: ceri.shotton@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	Improvement Plan: the document which sets out the annual priorities of the Council. It is a requirement of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to set Improvement Objectives and publish an Improvement Plan.

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn bwrpasol

CURRENT FWP

Date of meeting	Subject	Purpose of Report	Scrutiny Focus	Responsible / Contact Officer	Submission Deadline
<p>Thursday 17th December 2.00pm</p> <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Tudalen 15</p>	<p>Emergency Situation Update (Verbal)</p>	<p>To update on the latest position and the risks and implications for Flintshire and service and business continuity.</p>	<p>Information Sharing</p>	<p>Chief Executive</p>	
	<p>Mid-Year Council Plan Monitoring Report 2020/21</p>	<p>To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities, performance levels and current risk levels as identified in the Council Plan.</p>	<p>Assurance Monitoring</p>	<p>Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator</p>	
	<p>Recovery Strategy</p>	<p>To provide oversight on the recovery planning for the Committee's respective portfolio(s).</p>	<p>Assurance Monitoring</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Education & Youth)</p>	
	<p>Aura: Business Continuity Plan</p>	<p>To report on the Business Continuity Plan for Aura</p>	<p>Information Sharing / Assurance</p>	<p>Chief Executive</p>	
	<p>Adult Community Learning</p>	<p>To consider the new approach to delivery of our statutory responsibilities for Adult Community Learning</p>	<p>Consultation</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Education & Youth)</p>	

	Blended Learning	To provide oversight of the work of schools, GwE and the Portfolio to maintain quality educational provision during the pandemic	Assurance	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)	
<p>Thursday 28th January, 2021</p> <p>2.00pm</p> <p>Tudalen 16</p>	Council Plan 2020/21	To consider the proposed Council Plan for 2020/21 with specific focus on the Committee's respective portfolio(s).	Consultation	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)	
	School Modernisation Update	To provide Members with an update on the School Modernisation Programme	Assurance Monitoring	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)	
	Learner Outcomes 2020	To provide Members with a summary of learner outcomes across primary and secondary schools for 2020	Assurance Monitoring	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)	
	Learner Outcome Assesment Processes for 2021	To provide Members with an overview of the examination and assessment arrangements for Summer 2021.	Assurance Monitoring	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)	
	Cambrian Aquatics	To provide an update on the impact the emergency situation has had on the Business Plan for Cambrian Aquatics	Assurance Monitoring	Chief Officer (Housing & Assets)	

<p>Thursday 18th March, 2021</p> <p>2.00pm</p>	<p>Self Evaluation of Education Services 2019 – 2021</p>	<p>To update Members on overall service performance over the last two years</p>	<p>Assurance Monitoring</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Education & Youth)</p>	
	<p>Holywell Leisure Centre</p>	<p>To provide an update on the impact the emergency situation has had on the Business Plan for Cambrian Aquatics</p>	<p>Assurance Monitoring</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Housing & Assets)</p>	
<p>Thursday 29th April, 2021</p> <p>2.00pm</p> <p>Tudalen</p>	<p>School Attendance</p>	<p>To provide Members with a report on primary and secondary school attendance for 2019-20</p>	<p>Assurance Monitoring</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Education & Youth)</p>	
	<p>School Exclusions</p>	<p>To provide Members with an annual report on the level of exclusions in Flintshire schools for 2019-20</p>	<p>Assurance Monitoring</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Education & Youth)</p>	
<p>Thursday 17th June, 2021</p> <p>2.00pm</p> <p>Joint meeting with Social & Health Care OSC</p>	<p>ALN Tranformation</p>	<p>To provide Members with an update on the Authority's implementation plan and any national/regional updates</p>	<p>Assurance Monitoring</p>	<p>Chief Officers (Education & Youth and Social Services)</p>	
	<p>Looked After Children</p>	<p>To provide Members with an update on the provision for and outcomes of Looked After Children</p>	<p>Assurance Monitoring</p>	<p>Chief Officers (Education & Youth and Social Services)</p>	
	<p>Safeguarding in Education</p>	<p>To provide Members with an update on the discharge of statutory safeguarding duties</p>	<p>Assurance Monitoring</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Education & Youth)</p>	

		in schools and the Education portfolio.			
Thursday 1 st July, 2021 2.00pm	Annual Report from Regional School Improvement Service, GwE	To receive an update on the support provided by the regional school effectiveness and improvement service, GWE and its impact on schools	Assurance Monitoring	Chief Officer (Education & Youth) and Managing Director of GwE	
	Social Media and Internet Safety	To provide Members with an update on the Portfolio's Social Media and Internet Safety policy and provision	Assurance Monitoring	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)	

Tudalen 18

Items Cancelled and still outstanding for future scheduling

- **Digital Projects in Schools** – To provide Members with information on the Digital Projects being carried out in Schools across Flintshire (Vicky Barlow)
- **School Performance Monitoring Group** – To provide Members with the annual report of the work of the School Performance Monitoring Group (Claire Homard)
- **Outcome of School Funding Formula Review** – To consider the outcome of the review of the current School Funding Formula (Lucy Morris)

INFORMATION REPORTS TO BE CIRCULATED TO THE COMMITTEE

Item	Purpose of information report	Month
Health & Safety in Schools	Information report on accidents during the academic year and the actions taken to support schools in achieving healthy and safe environment	December

REGULAR ITEMS

Month	Item	Purpose of Report	Responsible / Contact Officer
	School Modernisation	To update Members on the progress made with School Modernisation	Senior Manager School Planning & Provision
February	Self-evaluation on education services	To update Members on overall service performance	Interim Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
April	Learner Outcomes – include attendance and exclusions in annual learner outcomes report	To provide Members with a summary of learner outcomes across primary and secondary school	Interim Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
June	Regional School Effectiveness and Improvement Service (GwE)	To receive an update on progress with the development of the regional school effectiveness and improvement service, to include a presentation from the Chief Officer of GwE.	Interim Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
December	School Balances	To provide the Committee with details of the closing balances held by Flintshire schools at the end of the financial year	Finance Manager
Annually	Learning from the School Performance Monitoring Group (SPMG);	To receive the annual report on progress and learning from the SPMG	Senior Manager – School Improvement;
Annually	Social Media & Internet Safety	To receive an annual report assurance/monitoring	Healthy Schools Practitioner
	Class Size Grant	To receive a regular update on how the Class Sizes Grant from Welsh Government was being used and how this aligned to the School Modernisation Programme	Senior Manager School Planning & Provision

Tudalen 9

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn bwrpasol

ACTION TRACKING FOR THE EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Meeting Date	Agenda item	Action Required	Action Officer(s)	Action taken	Timescale
24.09.2020	5. Minutes	David Hytch referred to page 4 of the minutes and asked that the comments attributed to himself following the word 'misinterpretation' be deleted.	Janet Kelly	Minutes amended and published on the Council's website.	Completed
24.09.2020	8. Recovery Strategy	In response to a question from Cllr Gladys Healey around support for young carers, Claire Homard explained that this continued as 'business as usual' but agreed to review whether this should be included in the risk register.	Claire Homard	This is part of the core work of the Integrated Youth Provision as part of our business as usual so does not need to be recorded as a separate risk.	Completed
24.09.2020	8. Recovery Strategy	Claire Homard agreed to provide the Committee with an update on direct payment for free school meals when available.	Claire Homard	An update was e-mailed to the Committee on 28.11.2020	Completed
24.09.2020	8. Recovery Strategy	The Facilitator to liaise with the Chief Officer, Senior Management Team and Chairman on the revised FWP prior to submission at the next Committee meeting.	Ceri Shotton / Claire Homard	FWP updated	Completed

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn bwrpasol

Eitem ar gyfer y Rhaglen 6



EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday 5 th November 2020
Report Subject	Budget 2021/22 – Stage 1
Cabinet Member	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Report Author	Corporate Finance Manager, Chief Executive and Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A report to Cabinet in October provided an update on the financial forecast for 2021/22 and the following two financial years. The report is attached as Appendix 1.

A full review of the forecast has been undertaken to build an accurate and robust baseline of cost pressures that will need to be funded. The review has taken into full account the ongoing impacts of the emergency situation including the speed of recovery of income against set targets.

Due to the current level of uncertainty scenarios have been presented in a range of low to high.

The report also sets out the limited solutions available to fund these cost pressures. The funding strategy is highly dependent on sufficient national funding for local government, a position which is unchanged since the budget for 2020/21 was set.

The details of the cost pressures for the Education and Youth portfolio are included in this report. The Committee is invited to review the cost pressures and risks, and to advise on any potential efficiency options to explore.

A slide presentation will be made at the meeting.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That the Committee reviews and comments on the Education, Youth and Culture Portfolio cost pressures.
2	That the Committee advises on any areas of cost efficiency it would like to be explored further.
3	That the Committee reviews and advises on the overall budget strategy.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE FINANCIAL FORECAST
1.01	A report to Cabinet in October provided an update of the overall financial forecast for 2021/22.
1.02	Due to the current level of uncertainty scenarios have been presented in a range of low to high.
1.03	As in recent years the budget for 2021/22 will be considered in stages. This is a first stage report which details the forecast and the cost pressures which make-up the total budget requirement.
1.04	<p>Revisions to the Forecast</p> <p>All inflationary, demand-led service and other cost pressures have been reviewed and evaluated.</p> <p>The cost pressures have been categorised as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Prior Year Decisions/ Approvals- Loss of Income- Legislative/Unavoidable Indexation- Issues requiring national resolution- National Funding Requirements (Pay Awards)- Strategic Considerations

1.05 The full details of the forecast are attached to this report in Appendix 1. A summary is given below.

Table 1. Revised Summary 2021/22

Summary of Pressures	21 / 22		
	L	M	T
	£m	£m	£m
Prior Year Decisions/Approvals	1.257	1.257	1.257
Income Loss	0.708	0.876	1.261
Legislative/Unavoidable Indexation Pressures	0.576	0.576	0.576
National Resolution Pressures	3.652	4.359	7.079
National Funding Requirement (Pay)	5.787	6.949	8.073
Strategic Decisions	2.444	5.619	9.090
Total Pressures	14.423	19.636	27.336

1.06 This report sets out in detail the schools cost pressures and those within the portfolio of this Committee.

Table 2: Education and Youth Portfolio Pressures

Pressure Title	£m	Note
Strategic		
ALN Reforms	0.144 - 0.597	1
Plas Derwen PRU new build (increased capacity)	0 - 0.074	2
Plas Derwen PRU build – Revenue Costs	0.027	2
Joint Archive Service – Revenue Costs	0-0.039	3
Home Education	0.046	4
Primary Learning Advisor	0.080	5

Note 1

ALN reforms – the pressure reflects additional resources required to implement the Additional Learning Needs & Education Tribunal Act 2018 (ALNET) and operational code in 2021/22. New systems must run parallel with the existing legislation for a period of 3 years. There are named statutory posts which will need to be recruited to and additional staffing requirements to respond to the extension of statutory duties to include pre-school children and adults up to the age of 25. The range has been calculated based on differing scenarios regarding, timing of recruitment and level of support provided to schools.

Note 2

The Plas Derwen Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) new build is a new facility which will open in September 2021 with increased capacity. To meet current demand and fully utilise the new facility additional staffing will be required. The range has been calculated based on no increase meaning the facility would not be fully utilised in 2021, the top would allow full utilisation and capacity for 25 additional pupils, and the medium would enable a proportionate increase. An increase in capacity would result in less children having to go to expensive out of county providers.

In addition there are site cost pressures relating to grounds maintenance and NNDR.

Note 3

Joint archive service - The Flintshire Archive service has now merged with the Denbighshire Archive service to become a new joint service - North East Wales Archives. As the newly merged service is still in transition there are additional costs being incurred as we seek to deliver a successful outcome of the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) capital development bid.

Note 4

Home Education - the Council has a statutory duty to arrange suitable full-time education for permanently excluded children and for other children who because of illness or other reasons are unable to attend. The demand for services has increased in recent years resulting in a budget pressure.

Note 5

Primary Advisor – the efficiencies made in recent years resulted in all of the school improvement function invested in a single post (Senior Manager for School Improvement). The workload in relation to the school improvement function has become unmanageable and is a risk to the Council in terms of resilience and maintaining quality of service delivery.

1.08

Table 3: Schools

Pressure Title	£m	Note
National Funding Requirement		
NJC Pay Award Estimate	0.709 - 1.134	1
NJC Pay Award Estimate - 20/21	0.206	1
Teacher Pay Award Estimate	1.798- 2.438	2
Teacher Pay Award Estimate – 20/21	0.536	2
Strategic		
Secondary School Funding Review	0 - 1.529	3
Secondary School Deficits	0 - 2.948	4

ALN Schools	0 - 0.825	5
Free School Meals – Demand	0.253	6
Free School Meals - Increase in allowance	0 - 0.174	6

Note 1

NJC Pay Award – the national negotiations for annual cost-of-living agreed pay for 2021/22 have not yet started. A range of potential outcomes from 2% to 3.5% have been modelled. The figures also include the estimated impact of the 2020/21 pay awards over and above the 2% provision in the 2020/21 budget.

Note 2

Teacher Pay Award – the estimate includes the impact of the September 2020 pay award which was funded at 2% the actual pay award was an average of 3.1%. The national negotiations for teacher pay for the period from September 2021 are unlikely to be concluded until next summer. A range of potential outcomes from 2% - 3.5% have been modelled.

Note 3

Secondary Schools Funding Review – the pressure reflects the estimated funding required to address the funding difficulties in secondary schools and enable a review of the funding formula to ensure that all schools are receiving sufficient funding to deliver the curriculum. The financial pressures facing secondary schools have arisen due to demographic changes, partial funding of pay and inflation costs due to austerity measures, and the growing challenges of ALN in schools. As this pressure is one that we could phase, the range has been modelled on zero, 50% and 100% of estimated requirement.

Note 4

Secondary Schools Deficits – the Estyn inspection of 2019 highlighted the long term nature of deficits in certain secondary schools and made a recommendation that the Authority address the deficits. Two secondary schools have significant deficits which they will not be in a position to repay. The timing of addressing the pressure is yet to be agreed and the range has been modelled on zero, 50% and 100% of estimated deficits.

Note 5

ALN schools – funding is delegated to schools to provide support to pupils with additional learning needs. The current funding is insufficient to meet the demand for the additional support required. This places a significant cost pressure on schools and impacts on the level of support schools are able to put in place to meet the needs of individual pupils. As the level of funding support is yet to be agreed, the range has been modelled on zero, 50% and 100% of the estimated cost pressure.

Note 6

Free School Meals (Poverty) – One of the strategic priorities for the Council is to address childhood poverty. It has been highlighted that the current cost of £2.35 is not enough to provide an adequate amount of sustenance for a secondary school pupil. As this is a choice the range has been modelled on zero increase, £2.75 medium and £3.00 top.

Free School Meals (Demand) - since the Covid-19 pandemic there has been a general increase in demand for FSMs and it is estimated that this trend will continue into next financial year placing pressure on the schools FSM budget.

1.09 **Table 4: Summary of Pressures**

Portfolio	Low (£m)	Medium (£m)	Top (£m)
Education & Youth			
Strategic	0.297	0.554	0.863
Schools			
National Funding Requirement (Pay)	3.249	3.782	4.314
Strategic	0.253	3.011	5.729
Total	3.799	7.347	10.906

1.10 Although not included as a cost pressure at this stage the ongoing risk of increasing costs for Out of County placements is being closely monitored.

1.11 **Strategic Funding Solutions**

The solutions available to the Council to fund the cost pressures outlined in the report are three-fold:-

- Government Funding (Aggregate External Finance)
- Local Taxation and Income
- Service Transformation and Efficiencies

We can also consider suppressing the budget requirement by not making full budget provision for some risks and treating them as 'Open Risks' to be managed in-year.

The funding strategy is highly dependent on sufficient national funding for local government.

1.12 **Budget Timeline**

The draft Welsh Government Budget has provisionally been set for 8 December 2020 with the Final Budget set for 2 March 2021. However, UK Government has recently announced that they will not be publishing an

autumn budget as planned, so the Welsh Government dates may be subject to change.

An outline of the local budget timeline at this stage is set out in the table below:

Table 5: Budget Timeline

Date	Event
November	Overview and Scrutiny Committees
8/9 December	WG Draft Budget/Provisional Settlement
15 December	Cabinet
19 January	Cabinet
16 February	Cabinet and Council
2/3 March	WG Final Budget/Settlement

2.00 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

2.01 As set out in the report.

3.00 CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT

3.01 As set out in the report.

4.00 RISK MANAGEMENT

4.01 As set out in the report.

5.00 APPENDICES

5.01 Appendix 1 - Cabinet Report 20th October 2020 – Medium Term Financial Strategy and Budget 2021/22

6.00 LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

6.01 Cabinet Report 20th October 2020 – Medium Term Financial Strategy and Budget 2021/22

Contact Officer: Gary Ferguson, Corporate Finance Manager
Telephone: (01352) 702271
E-mail: gary.ferguson@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>Specific Grants: An award of funding from a grant provider (e.g. Welsh Government) which must be used for a pre-defined purpose.</p> <p>Annual Settlement: the amount of its funds the Welsh Government will allocate annually to local government as a whole, as part of its total budget and to individual councils one by one. The amount of Revenue Support Grant each council will receive is based on a complex distribution formula for awarding Aggregate External Finance (AEF). The formula is underpinned by assessments of local need based, for example, of population size and demographics and levels of social deprivation.</p> <p>Financial Year: the period of 12 months commencing on 1 April</p> <p>Revenue: a term used to describe the day to day costs of running Council services and income deriving from those services. It also includes charges for the repayment of debt, including interest, and may include direct financing of capital expenditure.</p> <p>Budget: a statement expressing the Council's policies and service levels in financial terms for a particular financial year. In its broadest sense it includes both the revenue budget and capital programme and any authorised amendments to them.</p> <p>ALN: Additional Learning Needs</p> <p>FSM: Free School Meals</p>



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 20 th October 2020
Report Subject	Medium Term Financial Strategy and Budget 2021/22
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Finance for Finance
Report Author	Corporate Finance Manager and Chief Executive
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council works to a cycle of reviewing its Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) on an annual basis.

This report provides an update on the financial forecast for 2021/22 and the following two financial years.

A full review of the forecast has been undertaken to build an accurate and robust baseline of cost pressures that will need to be funded. The review has taken into full account the ongoing impacts of the emergency situation including the speed of recovery of key income targets.

The main purpose of this report is to set out in detail the forecast cost pressures for 2021/22 prior to referral for review and challenge to Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The report also sets out the solutions available to fund these cost pressures. The funding strategy is highly dependent on sufficient national funding for local government and is unchanged since the budget for 2020/21 was set.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To (1) note the overall forecast for the period 2021/22 – 2023/24 and (2) refer the list of cost pressures for 2021/22 to Overview and Scrutiny Meetings in November for review and challenge.
2	To note the solutions available to meet these cost pressures and re-set the funding strategy for 2021/22.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY FORECAST 2021/22 – 2023/24
1.01	<p>The Council has a cycle of reviewing its Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) on an annual basis.</p> <p>This report provides an update on the forecast position, last reported in full in February, for 2021/22 and the following two financial years.</p>
1.02	<p>When setting the budget for 2020/21 a projected estimate was reported for the major cost pressures predicted over the next two years. The forecast was based on (1) annual pay increases trending at 2% (2) similar level of commissioning cost pressures within Social Services and (3) other known pressures at that time. The total of all cost pressures identified at the time totaled £9.829m for 2021/22 and £7.433m for 2022/23.</p>
1.03	<p>A full review of the forecast has been undertaken to build an accurate and robust baseline of cost pressures that will need to be funded. The review has taken into full account the ongoing impacts of the emergency situation including the speed of recovery of key income targets.</p>
	The National Position
1.04	<p>The impact of the pandemic continues to have a significant impact on the Council's cost base and its ability to generate income. The Welsh Government has made a number of funding announcements over the last few months which have given some certainty as to how these additional costs and income losses can be recouped in the current financial year.</p>
1.05	<p>The Autumn Budget of the UK Government has been postponed. This, in turn, has caused budget uncertainty for Welsh Government. It is expected that there will still be some form of a UK Spending Review on a date to be announced.</p>

	Updates to the Financial Forecast
1.06	Over the summer the inflationary and demand led service cost pressures have been assessed and this report provides in detail the outcome of this work.
1.07	<p>The cost pressures have been categorised as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prior Year Decisions/ Approvals - Loss of Income - Legislative/Unavoidable Indexation - Issues requiring national resolution - National Funding Requirements (Pay Awards) - Strategic Considerations <p>Appendix 1 sets out the latest position for the Medium Term Financial Forecast in detail and includes ranges where pressures are subject to sensitivities such as national pay awards, ongoing uncertainty due to the pandemic or where they can be subject to some choice regarding the level of service to be provided. In summary the ranges are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2021/22 - £14.423m - £27.336m - 2022/23 - £9.447m - £13.036m - 2023/24 - £8.982m - £11.996m <p>Forecasts for 2022/23 and 2023/24 will continue to be refined alongside the work to agree the 2021/22 budget as decisions made throughout the process will impact on the projections for later years.</p> <p>The main purpose of this report is to set out in detail the forecast cost pressures for 2021/22 prior to referral for review and challenge to Overview and Scrutiny Committee.</p>
1.08	<p>Prior Year Decisions/ Approvals</p> <p>These are built-up of commitments and adjustments made in prior years and include:</p>
1.09	<p>Marleyfield Residential Care Home</p> <p>The cost pressure of £0.425m for the additional revenue costs of the expansion of in house residential care services to meet increasing demand.</p>
1.10	<p><u>Minimum Revenue Provision</u></p> <p>This is the amount set aside for the repayment of debt for historic capital spend. The policy was changed to the annuity method a couple of years ago and the annual inflationary uplift of £0.300m needs to be included in the budget on a recurring basis.</p>
1.11	<p><u>One-Off Efficiencies/Pressures Dropping Out</u></p> <p>The benefit of a Single Person Discount review has a one-off benefit in the current financial year and will be built into the overall Council Tax base</p>

	calculation for 2021/22. In addition a pressure in relation to social services day services that was included in 2019/20 budget is no longer required.
1.12	<p><u>Unrealised Efficiencies</u></p> <p>There are a number of areas relating to previous year efficiencies which are not able to be achieved. Some of these are due in part to changes in demand on services or lower than anticipated take-up on schemes such as the salary sacrifice scheme.</p>
1.13	<p>Loss of Income</p> <p>Reductions in demand is impacting on budgeted income levels across a wide range of service areas and include:</p>
1.14	<p><u>Reduced Energy Sales</u></p> <p>Due to a reduction in the levels of income generated by sales of Electricity which is dependent on the availability of gas produced by two closed landfill sites.</p>
1.15	<p><u>Recyclates</u></p> <p>Due to fluctuations in both the volumes of recycling waste and the amount of rebate available for certain recyclates in the current market. The volatility of the market makes it difficult to predict an accurate figure so at this stage a range of £0.299m to £0.730m is included.</p>
1.16	<p><u>Sale of Newtech Square</u></p> <p>Due to the loss of revenue income to the Council as a result of the sale of the asset which will result in a capital receipt to support our Capital Programme.</p>
1.17	<p><u>Markets</u></p> <p>Due to the need to reflect the current level of activity which has reduced over time as well as footfall being impacted due to the impact of the pandemic.</p>
1.18	<p>Legislative/Unavoidable Indexation</p> <p>The pressures within this category are a combination of legislative changes and indexation increases to organisations where we have no direct control and include:</p>
1.19	<p><u>'Sleep-In' Pay Ruling</u></p> <p>The outcome of a ruling by the Supreme Court for Sleep-In Shifts is due shortly which may mean allowances will need to be increased.</p>
1.20	<p><u>Private Water Supplies</u></p> <p>Due to the need to meet statutory obligations in relation to risk assessments for all water supplies in the Local Authority area. These include initial assessment, ongoing monitoring and enforcement where necessary.</p>

1.21	<p><u>North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority (NWFRA)</u></p> <p>The NWFRA levy is agreed each year and the Council is likely to need to contribute an inflationary uplift. The principle of adding NWFRA levy increase to the local taxation bill will need to be continued.</p>
	<p>Issues Requiring National Resolution</p>
1.22	<p><u>Council Tax Income / Council Tax Reduction Scheme</u></p> <p>The Pandemic has resulted in a significant increase in demand for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) and the receipt of Council Tax income is currently well below target.</p> <p>Both of these issues are acknowledged by Welsh Government and discussions will need to continue to secure additional funding supported by the WLGA.</p> <p>The cost of indexation for social care commissioning is also included here and the same principle applies, particularly in view of the current demand pressures in this area.</p>
	<p>National Pay Awards</p>
1.23	<p>The impact of the nationally agreed pay awards for Teacher Pay and Non Teacher Pay are included in this category. The increases are not yet known so a range of potential impacts from 2% - 3.5% have been included at this stage for modelling purposes.</p> <p>The figures also include the estimated impact of the 2020/21 pay awards being higher than the 2% included in the budget. Whilst the in-year impact of a higher pay award will need to be met by reserves in the current financial year, the recurring impact will need to be built into the budget for 2021/22.</p>
1.24	<p>Strategic Considerations</p> <p>There are a number of areas where further strategic consideration are required over the coming months before the outcome can be included in the formal budget process.</p>
1.25	<p><u>Transport</u></p> <p>School Transport – to address fluctuations in the number of school days per year based on current operator costs as well as additional demand due to change of routes.</p> <p>Post 16 transport – to reflect shortfall in efficiency due to a policy change following changes in regulations - flagged as a risk in the 2020/21 budget.</p> <p>Social Care Transport – due to an increase in demand within both Adult and Children’s Services.</p>

1.26	<p><u>Social Care</u></p> <p>Transition to Adulthood – to reflect the additional cost of young people transitioning from Children to Adult Services. The range reflects different scenarios based on demand estimates and levels of support requirements.</p> <p>Children’s Registered Care Home – The Council is looking at options to support a reduction in the number of Out of County Placements and is reviewing options to deliver care in house. Support from Welsh Government is also being sought.</p>																																						
1.27	<p><u>Education</u></p> <p>Secondary School Funding – due to a requirement to address school deficits which was a recommendation within the Estyn report. The issue is twofold 1) to address the existing deficit position and 2) to try and ensure that schools are funded to the level needed. This may need to be a longer term strategy.</p> <p>Additional Learning Needs – due to a statutory obligation to meet the requirements of the new Additional Learning Needs & Educational Tribunal Act which is due to be implemented in 2021/22. This will require additional resources for both schools and for the local authority in relation to the provision of support for Children.</p>																																						
1.28	<p>The table below summarises all cost pressures:</p> <p>Table 1: Updated Budget Requirement Forecast 2021/22</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="300 1111 1342 1659"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="3">Summary of Pressures</th> <th colspan="3">2021 / 22</th> </tr> <tr> <th>L</th> <th>M</th> <th>H</th> </tr> <tr> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Prior Year Decisions/Approvals</td> <td>1.257</td> <td>1.257</td> <td>1.257</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Income Loss</td> <td>0.708</td> <td>0.876</td> <td>1.261</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Legislative/Unavoidable Indexation Pressures</td> <td>0.576</td> <td>0.576</td> <td>0.576</td> </tr> <tr> <td>National Resolution Pressures</td> <td>3.652</td> <td>4.359</td> <td>7.079</td> </tr> <tr> <td>National Funding Requirement (Pay)</td> <td>5.787</td> <td>6.949</td> <td>8.073</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Strategic Decisions</td> <td>2.444</td> <td>5.619</td> <td>9.090</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Pressures</td> <td>14.423</td> <td>19.636</td> <td>27.336</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Summary of Pressures	2021 / 22			L	M	H	£m	£m	£m	Prior Year Decisions/Approvals	1.257	1.257	1.257	Income Loss	0.708	0.876	1.261	Legislative/Unavoidable Indexation Pressures	0.576	0.576	0.576	National Resolution Pressures	3.652	4.359	7.079	National Funding Requirement (Pay)	5.787	6.949	8.073	Strategic Decisions	2.444	5.619	9.090	Total Pressures	14.423	19.636	27.336
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1.29	<p>Risks Issues</p> <p><u>North Wales Growth Bid</u></p> <p>The above is reaching a key stage and it is likely that some capital borrowing costs will be incurred by the partnership for advance capital access to ‘front-load’ investment for priority projects, noting that the Government grant is paid over to the partnership on an annualised bases over fifteen years. The detail of the Growth Deal is being finalised and the partnership aim to keep capital</p>																																						

	<p>borrowing costs to the lowest possible level. Final cost estimates, and how they are to be shared, will be reported when available.</p>														
	<p>Strategic Funding Solutions</p>														
1.30	<p>The solutions available to the Council to fund the cost pressures outlined in the report can be spilt into three themes:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government Funding (Aggregate External Finance) - Local Taxation and Income - Service Transformation and Efficiencies <p>We can also consider suppressing the budget requirement by not making full budget provision for some risks and treating them as ‘Open Risks’ to be managed in-year.</p> <p>The funding strategy is highly dependent on sufficient national funding for local government and is unchanged since the budget for 2020/21 was set.</p>														
1.31	<p>Government Funding (Aggregate External Finance)</p> <p>The Council receives the largest amount of its funding from Welsh Government in the form of the Revenue Support Grant (RSG).</p> <p>For the Council to be sustainable future settlements will need to reflect the national financial pressures imposed on councils that are outside of their e.g. pay awards and legislative cost pressures.</p>														
1.32	<p>In 2020/21 the Council received an increase of 3.7% on its RSG – 0.6% below the Welsh Average of 4.3%.</p> <p>The impact of a range of RSG scenarios ranging from 0% to 5% are set out below.</p> <p>Table 2 – RSG Uplift Scenarios</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Percentage Increase</th> <th>0%</th> <th>1%</th> <th>2%</th> <th>3%</th> <th>4%</th> <th>5%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Increase (£m)</td> <td>0</td> <td>1.994</td> <td>3.988</td> <td>5.982</td> <td>7.975</td> <td>9.969</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Percentage Increase	0%	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%	Increase (£m)	0	1.994	3.988	5.982	7.975	9.969
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Increase (£m)	0	1.994	3.988	5.982	7.975	9.969									
1.33	<p>Local Taxation and Income</p> <p>No assumptions have been made on the level of Council Tax increases for future years at this stage and a decision will need to be made during the budget process in the context of the overall position.</p> <p>The impact of a range of scenarios are detailed below ranging from 0% - 5%:</p>														

Table 3: Council Tax Scenarios

Percentage Increase	0%	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%
Increase (£m)	0.677	1.550	2.423	3.296	4.169	5.041

Based on Estimated Council Tax Base for 21/22 and 98.7% collection rate

Fees and charges remain unchanged and will be subject to indexation as per the Council Policy for Fees and Charges with the aim of achieving full cost recovery wherever possible.

1.34 Service Transformation and Efficiencies

There are no local budget choices presented at this stage. There are no efficiencies of scale remaining and the position has not changed since we set the last annual budget. The need for safe and resilient services has been highlighted by the response to the emergency situation. A realistic minimum target of £1m has been estimated as a contribution to the budget for 2021/22.

1.35 'Open Risks'

The forecast as presented is subject to decisions on the level of the financial pressures to be included in the base and whether to take some 'open risks' as explained in 1.30 above.

1.36 Summary and Conclusions

Table 4: Potential Scenarios

Gap at the Lower Level	14.423	14.423	14.423	14.423	14.423	14.423
Percentage Increase	0%	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
RSG	0	1.994	3.988	5.982	7.975	9.969
Efficiencies	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
Council Tax	0.677	1.550	2.423	3.296	4.169	5.041
Total Potential Funding	1.677	4.544	7.411	10.278	13.144	16.010
Remaining Gap	12.746	9.879	7.012	4.145	1.279	(1.587)

1.37 As shown in table 4 a minimum RSG uplift of between 4% and 5% is required to cover the current level of cost pressures at the lower end.

1.38 **Budget Timeline**

The draft Welsh Government Budget has provisionally been set for 8 December 2020 with the Final Budget set for 2 March 2021. However, UK Government have recently announced that they will not be presenting an Autumn budget this year so the Welsh Government dates may be subject to change.

An outline of the local budget timeline at this stage is set out in the table below:

Table 5: Budget Timeline

Date	Event
20 October	Cabinet
November	Overview & Scrutiny Committees
8/9 December	WG Draft Budget/Provisional Settlement
15 December	Cabinet
19 January	Cabinet
16 February	Cabinet and Council
2/3 March	WG Final Budget/Settlement

2.00 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

2.01 **Revenue:** the revenue implications for the 2021/22 budget are set out in the report.

Capital: there are no new implications for the approved capital programme for either the current financial year or for future financial years – the capital programme will be subject to a separate report

Human Resources: there are no implications for additional capacity or for any change to current workforce structures or roles at this stage.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT																					
3.01	<p>Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="320 309 1383 1070"> <tr> <td data-bbox="320 309 745 674">Long-term</td> <td data-bbox="745 309 1383 674">Negative – the absence of longer-term funding settlements from Welsh Government means that sustainable support for service delivery is challenging for the longer term. Sustainable funding from Welsh Government that provides additional funding for Indexation, Service demands and new legislation will provide a positive and sustainable position for the Council in the longer term.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="320 674 745 712">Prevention</td> <td data-bbox="745 674 1383 712">As above</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="320 712 745 750">Integration</td> <td data-bbox="745 712 1383 750">Neutral Impact</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="320 750 745 929">Collaboration</td> <td data-bbox="745 750 1383 929">Services continue to explore opportunities for collaboration with other services and external partners to support positive impacts.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="320 929 745 1070">Involvement</td> <td data-bbox="745 929 1383 1070">Communication with Members, residents and other stakeholders throughout the budget process.</td> </tr> </table> <p>Well-Being Goals Impact</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="320 1182 1383 2101"> <tr> <td data-bbox="320 1182 745 1480">Prosperous Wales</td> <td data-bbox="745 1182 1383 1480">Longer term funding settlements from Welsh Government that provide additional funding for indexation, service demands and new legislation will aid sustainability and support a strong economy that encourage business investment in the region. The opposite will be true if settlements are inadequate.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="320 1480 745 1659">Resilient Wales</td> <td data-bbox="745 1480 1383 1659">Continuation of services to support communities and social cohesion will have a positive impact. The opposite will be true if settlements are inadequate.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="320 1659 745 1809">Healthier Wales</td> <td data-bbox="745 1659 1383 1809">An appropriate level of funding will ensure that communities are supported and will have a positive impact. The opposite will be true if settlements are inadequate.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="320 1809 745 1960">More equal Wales</td> <td data-bbox="745 1809 1383 1960">A positive impact with greater parity of funding from Welsh Government for all Welsh Local Authorities. The opposite will be true if settlements are inadequate.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="320 1960 745 2101">Cohesive Wales</td> <td data-bbox="745 1960 1383 2101">Appropriate level of funding will support services working alongside partners. The opposite will be true if settlements are inadequate.</td> </tr> </table>		Long-term	Negative – the absence of longer-term funding settlements from Welsh Government means that sustainable support for service delivery is challenging for the longer term. Sustainable funding from Welsh Government that provides additional funding for Indexation, Service demands and new legislation will provide a positive and sustainable position for the Council in the longer term.	Prevention	As above	Integration	Neutral Impact	Collaboration	Services continue to explore opportunities for collaboration with other services and external partners to support positive impacts.	Involvement	Communication with Members, residents and other stakeholders throughout the budget process.	Prosperous Wales	Longer term funding settlements from Welsh Government that provide additional funding for indexation, service demands and new legislation will aid sustainability and support a strong economy that encourage business investment in the region. The opposite will be true if settlements are inadequate.	Resilient Wales	Continuation of services to support communities and social cohesion will have a positive impact. The opposite will be true if settlements are inadequate.	Healthier Wales	An appropriate level of funding will ensure that communities are supported and will have a positive impact. The opposite will be true if settlements are inadequate.	More equal Wales	A positive impact with greater parity of funding from Welsh Government for all Welsh Local Authorities. The opposite will be true if settlements are inadequate.	Cohesive Wales	Appropriate level of funding will support services working alongside partners. The opposite will be true if settlements are inadequate.
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	Vibrant Wales	As Healthier and Cohesive Wales above
	Globally responsible Wales	Neutral impact.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	The Forecast for 2021/22 – 2023/24 will be considered by Overview and Scrutiny Committees during November.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1. MTFS Forecast 21/22 – 23/24.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Gary Ferguson,, Corporate Finance Manager Telephone: 01352 702271 E-mail: gary.ferguson@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	<p>Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS): a written strategy which gives a forecast of the financial resources which will be available to a Council for a given period, and sets out plans for how best to deploy those resources to meet its priorities, duties and obligations.</p> <p>Revenue: a term used to describe the day to day costs of running Council services and income deriving from those services. It also includes charges for the repayment of debt, including interest, and may include direct financing of capital expenditure.</p> <p>Budget: a statement expressing the Council’s policies and service levels in financial terms for a particular financial year. In its broadest sense it includes both the revenue budget and capital programme and any authorised amendments to them.</p>

Revenue Support Grant: the annual amount of money the Council receives from Welsh Government to fund what it does alongside the Council Tax and other income the Council raises locally. Councils can decide how to use this grant across services although their freedom to allocate according to local choice can be limited by guidelines set by Government.

Specific Grants: An award of funding from a grant provider (e.g. Welsh Government) which must be used for a pre-defined purpose.

Welsh Local Government Association: the representative body for unitary councils, fire and rescue authorities and national parks authorities in Wales.

Financial Year: the period of 12 months commencing on 1 April.

Local Government Funding Formula: The system through which the annual funding needs of each council is assessed at a national level and under which each council's Aggregate External Finance (AEF) is set. The revenue support grant is distributed according to that formula.

Aggregate External Finance (AEF): The support for local revenue spending from the Welsh Government and is made up of formula grant including the revenue support grant and the distributable part of non-domestic rates.

Provisional Local Government Settlement: The Provisional Settlement is the draft budget for local government published by the Welsh Government for consultation. The Final Local Government Settlement is set following the consultation.

Funding Floor: a guaranteed level of funding for councils who come under the all-Wales average change in the annual Settlement. A floor has been a feature of the Settlement for many years.

MTFS - SUMMARY OF PRESSURES	Revisions			Revisions			Revisions		
	2021/22			2022/23			2023/24		
	Bottom	Middle	Top	Bottom	Middle	Top	Bottom	Middle	Top
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Prior Year Decisions / Approvals									
One Off Efficiencies dropping out (20/21)	0.300	0.300	0.300						
One Off Pressures dropping out (19/20)	(0.056)	(0.056)	(0.056)						
Unrealised Efficiency - Legal Svcs/Ind Est Review	0.092	0.092	0.092						
Unrealised Efficiency - Postage - Council Tax	0.035	0.035	0.035						
Unrealised Efficiency - Postage - Benefits	0.041	0.041	0.041						
Unrealised Efficiency - Market Review	0.035	0.035	0.035						
Unrealised Efficiency - Salary Sacrifice - AVC's	0.070	0.070	0.070						
Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) - Existing	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300
Further borrowing costs for Capital Programme	0.015	0.015	0.015	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001
Marleyfield Revenue Costs	0.425	0.425	0.425						
Total - Prior Years Decisions / Approvals	1.257	1.257	1.257	0.301	0.301	0.301	0.301	0.301	0.301
Loss of Income									
Reduced Energy Sales - Reduction in gas generation	0.120	0.120	0.120						
Markets - Scale of markets reducing	0.074	0.086	0.114						
Pest Control - Reduction in customer led demand	0.040	0.046	0.052						
Sale of Newtech Square - Rent no longer collected	0.095	0.095	0.095						
Enterprise Centres - Reduction in occupancy levels	0.050	0.050	0.050						
Recyclate Markets - Volatility in price & volume	0.299	0.479	0.730						
Registration Service - Cancellation of events	0.030		0.100	(0.030)		(0.100)			
Total - Loss of Income	0.708	0.876	1.261	(0.030)		(0.100)			
CUMULATIVE TOTAL	1.965	2.133	2.518	0.271	0.301	0.201	0.301	0.301	0.301
Legislative / Unavoidable Indexation Pressures									
Sleep in Pay Ruling	0.125	0.125	0.125						
Private Water Supplies	0.104	0.104	0.104				(0.052)	(0.052)	(0.052)
SUDS	0.112	0.112	0.112						
Fee Increases - Coroners	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.027	0.027	0.027	0.029	0.029	0.029
Independent Review Panel for Wales (IRPW)	0.028	0.028	0.028	0.029	0.029	0.029	0.030	0.030	0.030
North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority	0.160	0.160	0.160	0.162	0.162	0.162	0.164	0.164	0.164
Adoption Service	0.022	0.022	0.022						
Liberty Protection Safeguards				0.150	0.275	0.400			
Total - Legislative / Unavoid Index'n Pressures	0.576	0.576	0.576	0.368	0.493	0.618	0.170	0.170	0.170
CUMULATIVE TOTAL	2.541	2.709	3.094	0.639	0.794	0.819	0.471	0.471	0.471
Requiring National Resolution									
Benefits - CTRS	1.172	1.414	1.654	0.608	0.621	0.633	0.639	0.652	0.664
Council Tax Collection Levels	0.600	1.000	1.600						
Social Care Commissioning	1.880	1.945	3.825	2.037	2.037	2.037	2.116	2.116	2.116
Total - National Resolution Pressures	3.652	4.359	7.079	2.646	2.658	2.670	2.755	2.767	2.780
CUMULATIVE TOTAL	6.193	7.068	10.173	3.285	3.452	3.489	3.226	3.239	3.251
National Funding Requirement									
NJC Pay Award Estimate (Non Schools)	1.926	2.556	3.147	1.817	2.428	3.051	1.636	2.289	2.949
NJC Pay Award Estimate (Non Schools) - 20/21	0.612	0.612	0.612						
NJC Pay Award Estimate (Schools)	0.709	0.922	1.134	0.765	0.990	1.219	0.784	1.023	1.063
NJC Pay Award Estimate (Schools) - 20/21	0.206	0.206	0.206						
Teacher Pay Award Estimate	1.798	2.118	2.438	1.564	2.131	2.703	1.609	2.209	2.822
Teacher Pay Award Estimate - 20/21	0.536	0.536	0.536						
Total - National Funding Requirement	5.787	6.949	8.073	4.145	5.549	6.973	4.029	5.521	6.834
CUMULATIVE TOTAL	11.980	14.017	18.246	7.430	9.001	10.461	7.254	8.759	10.085

MTFS - SUMMARY OF PRESSURES	Revisions			Revisions			Revisions		
	2021/22			2022/23			2023/24		
	Bottom	Middle	Top	Bottom	Middle	Top	Bottom	Middle	Top
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Strategic Decisions									
School Transport - General	0.163	0.163	0.163						
School Transport - Closure of John Summers	0.050	0.050	0.050						
Post 16 Transport	0.047	0.047	0.047						
Social Services Adults Transport	0.063	0.063	0.063						
Social Services Childrens Transport	0.044	0.044	0.044						
Carelink - Alarm Monitoring Contract	0.125	0.125	0.125						
Carelink - Budget Issue (HSG)	0.216	0.216	0.216	0.109	0.109	0.109			
Transition to Adulthood	0.495	0.656	1.100	1.176	1.176	1.176	0.656	0.656	0.656
Secondary School Funding Review		0.764	1.529						
Secondary School Deficits		1.474	2.948		1.914	0.440		0.180	0.180
ALN - Reforms	0.144	0.340	0.597	0.223	0.223	0.223	0.017	0.017	0.017
ALN - Schools		0.413	0.825						
PRU new Build (Increased capacity)		0.061	0.074		0.045	0.113			
New PRU Building - Revenue Costs	0.027	0.027	0.027	0.019	0.019	0.019			
Children's Registered Residential Care Home	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.413	0.413	0.413			
P2P Upgrade	0.024	0.024	0.024	(0.019)	(0.019)	(0.019)			
Addressing Poverty - FSM - Demand	0.253	0.253	0.253						
Addressing Poverty - FSM - Increase in Allowance		0.107	0.174						
Joint Archive Service - Borrowing Costs							0.142	0.142	0.142
Joint Archive Service - Revenue costs			0.039			0.004			0.004
Benefits - Additional Staffing	0.300	0.300	0.300						
Ash Dieback	0.060	0.060	0.060						
21C Schools - Band B Borrowing Costs	0.015	0.015	0.015	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.912	0.912	0.912
Business Manager - Streetscene	0.072	0.072	0.072						
Home Education	0.046	0.046	0.046						
Primary Learning Advisor	0.080	0.080	0.080						
Missing from Home Coordinator	0.034	0.034	0.034						
Feasibility Study Provision Top Up	0.050	0.050	0.050						
Total - Strategic Decisions	2.444	5.619	9.090	2.017	3.977	2.575	1.727	1.907	1.911
CUMULATIVE TOTAL	14.423	19.636	27.336	9.447	12.978	13.036	8.982	10.666	11.996

Summary of Pressures 21/22 - 23/24

Summary of Pressures	21 / 22			22 / 23			23 / 24		
	L	M	T	L	M	T	L	M	T
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Prior Year Decisions/Approvals	1.257	1.257	1.257	0.301	0.301	0.301	0.301	0.301	0.301
Income Loss	0.708	0.876	1.261	(0.030)	0.000	(0.100)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Legislative/Unavoidable Indexation Press	0.576	0.576	0.576	0.368	0.493	0.618	0.170	0.170	0.170
National Resolution Pressures	3.652	4.359	7.079	2.646	2.658	2.670	2.755	2.767	2.780
National Funding Requirement (Pay)	5.787	6.949	8.073	4.145	5.549	6.973	4.029	5.521	6.834
Strategic Decisions	2.444	5.619	9.090	2.017	3.977	2.575	1.727	1.907	1.911
Total Pressures	14.423	19.636	27.336	9.447	12.978	13.036	8.982	10.666	11.996

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn bwrpasol

Eitem ar gyfer y Rhaglen 7



EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday, 5 th November 2020
Report Subject	School Reserve Balances Year Ending 31 March 2020 and Protocol for Schools In Financial Difficulty.
Cabinet Member	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Report Author	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

There continues to be pressure on school budgets demonstrated by reducing school reserves. The overall level of reserves held by Flintshire schools was £0.112m at 31 March 2020, a decrease of £1.241m (92%) compared with the previous year.

Managing the financial situation during the current financial year will be very challenging for Headteachers and Governors which will be exacerbated by uncertainties associated with the Covid 19 situation.

Overall secondary schools net deficit position increased by £0.639m (44%). There was also a significant reduction in primary balances of £0.663 (26%). Specialist school balances increased by £0.061m.

A summary of the position at the end of March 2020 is shown in table 1 below.

Table 1

School Sector	2019-20 Schools Delegated Budget	March 2020 Balance surplus/ (deficit)	March 2019 Balance surplus/ (deficit)	Change Between Years
	£'m	£'m	£'m	£'m
Primary	47.633	1.920	2.583	(0.663)
Secondary	42.171	(2.094)	(1.455)	(0.639)
Specialist	3.827	0.286	0.225	0.061
Overall Totals	93.631	0.112	1.353	(1.241)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	Members are requested to note the school reserve balances as at the 31 March 2020.
2	Members are requested to note the changes to the Protocol for Schools in Financial Difficulty.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING SCHOOL BALANCES
1.01	The analysis of reserve balances for each school in Flintshire at the end of March 2020 is shown at appendix 1.
1.02	<p>Secondary Schools</p> <p>Secondary school budgets continue to be under significant pressure. At the end of the financial year six of Flintshire's 11 secondary schools had deficits amounting to £2.315m. Deficits ranged from £0.012m to £0.776m.</p> <p>Of particular concern are St David's High School with a deficit of £0.776m and Ysgol Treffynnon with a deficit of £0.761m. Both schools are forecasting a worsening financial position in future years with little expectation of being able to recover the deficits. In line with the Protocol for Schools in Financial Difficulty school support and challenge meetings have been held and both schools were invited to a Financial Performance Monitoring Group (FPMG) meeting with senior members and officers and GwE representatives.</p> <p>In general, the financial resilience of the secondary school sector in Flintshire is of concern. The level of reserves held by secondary schools with positive balances was only 0.4% of budget.</p> <p>There are a number of factors which have contributed to the current financial position.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The ongoing austerity measures over recent years have resulted in schools having to absorb inflationary increases in pay, pension and NI increases.• Demographic changes in the distribution of pupils across the primary and secondary sectors. In recent years, secondary pupil numbers have been declining whilst primary pupil numbers have been increasing and this has resulted in a redistribution of funding between sectors. However, this trend is now reversing and pupil numbers in the secondary sector are now increasing which will have a positive financial impact on the secondary sector going forward.• Smaller secondary schools with increasing deficits elicits the question as to whether the funding formula provides sufficient resource for schools to operate sustainably. St David's pupil numbers for September are estimated at 350 and Treffynnon 477.• As part of the response to the Estyn recommendation initial work was conducted with secondary schools to review the funding

	<p>formula. However, without additional funding for schools a revision to the current formula would not be feasible.</p>
1.03	<p>Primary Schools</p> <p>Primary balances in Flintshire decreased by £0.663m. In previous years, primary balances have held up well despite the continuing pressure of austerity measures and this has offset the worsening position of secondary schools. As referred to in 1.02 above, demographic changes mean that primary pupil numbers are forecast to reduce and this will create challenges for Primary Headteachers in managing their budgets in future years.</p> <p>At the end of the financial year there were nine primary schools with deficit balances totalling £0.227m compared with six primary schools with total deficits of £0.121m in the previous year.</p> <p>There were 16 primary schools with balances greater than £50k. This compares with 21 schools in the previous year, two primary schools had balances over £100k compared with four schools in the previous year.</p>
1.04	<p>Surplus Balances</p> <p>The School Funding (Wales) Regulations 2010 require Authorities to have the following provisions in their Scheme for Financing Schools:</p> <p>The use that a governing body proposes to make of a surplus in the school balance which exceeds 5% of the school budget share or £10,000, whichever is the greater.</p> <p>A provision under which–</p> <p>(a) the authority may direct the governing body as to how to spend a surplus in the school balance for a funding period, if–</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) in the case of a primary school the surplus is £50,000 or more, and (ii) in the case of a secondary school or a special school the surplus is £100,000 or more; <p>(b) the authority may, if the governing body do not comply with such a direction, require the governing body to pay all or part of that surplus to the authority to be applied as part of their schools budget for the funding period in question.</p> <p>In accordance with the Regulations, the Authority's Scheme for Financing Schools requires a spending plan from schools as to the use that the governing body proposes to make of a school balance which exceeds the limits specified. The plans are scrutinised by the Schools Accounting Team and submitted to the Portfolio Management Team for their review and approval.</p>
1.05	<p>Deficit Balances</p> <p>In response to the worsening financial position of some secondary schools and the recommendation made by Estyn (see below) the Education &</p>

	<p>Youth Portfolio developed a Protocol for Schools in Financial Difficulty which was finalised and issued to schools in October 2019 and provides a framework for schools to apply to the Authority for a licenced deficit.</p> <p><i>Estyn Inspection of Local Government Education Services – June 2019 stated the following:</i></p> <p><i>‘The local authority’s allocation of resources to its education services and schools reflects the high priority given to education in the corporate plan. However, the local authority has allowed a small number of schools to carry a financial deficit balance for too long’.</i></p> <p>The Protocol provides a framework for the Council to give an appropriate level of challenge and support to help them schools in financial difficulty set a balanced budget. If this is not achievable the Council will support schools in preparing a recovery plan that sets out the action the school will take to achieve a sustainable financial position over an agreed period of time.</p>
1.06	<p>Flintshire Internal Audit Service conducted an advisory review of the Protocol in March and there will be a full internal audit conducted of the Licenced deficit process in 2020/21. The recommendations of the advisory review were as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Protocol does not specifically state that Governors have no legal right to set a deficit budget without the consent of the Council and must not presume that such consent will be granted. Inclusion of such a statement in the Protocol would ensure clarity and consistency of messaging between the Protocol and the Scheme for Financing Schools. 2. The step-by-step procedure for applying for a deficit does not include clear timescales of the process. With the only defined dates being when the original budget plan is to be submitted. A timeline which includes deadlines for different steps of the application would provide clear guidance on what is expected by the school and what to expect from the Council. 3. It would be useful for the protocol to include some further information or signposting around sound financial management and polices which the schools should be using to effectively manage their financial responsibilities. This could further help prevent deficits arising. It would also be useful to include a list of the training which is available to schools on financial management. 4. An appendix which includes examples of how the application and recovery plan should be completed would be helpful, or alternatively information on the level of detail required for approval of the deficit budget by the Council. <p>Work is ongoing to address these recommendations and the protocol has been updated to reflect recommendations 1 and 2. This is attached at Appendix 2.</p>

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The impact of continuing austerity measures on the financial resilience of schools is an area of concern.

3.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	As funding levels to schools decrease as a consequence of the austerity measures facing local government, there is a risk that more schools will slip into a deficit position. The Schools Accounting Team have developed a risk rating process to identify schools where the financial position is a cause for concern so that they can target their support.
3.02	To balance budgets schools may need to review their staffing structures which may result in redundancies.
3.03	Continued pressure on school finances may result in increased class sizes, a reduced curriculum and falling standards.
3.04	There may be an adverse financial impact arising due the Covid-19 pandemic and schools attention will be focused on delivery of education during this crisis.
3.05	Schools deficits are funded by the overall collective balances of schools, however there is a risk that the level of deficits will exceed the positive balances. This means that the Authority will have to consider how net deficit school budgets are funded.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
4.01	A report on school balances was submitted to the Flintshire Schools Budget Forum held in September and circulated to all Headteachers. This report will be submitted to the Audit Committee.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 - Final School Balances 2019-20 Appendix 2 - Protocol for Schools in Financial Difficulty

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	<p>Contact Officer: Lucy Morris, Schools Finance Manager Telephone: 01352 704016 E-mail: Lucy.morris@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	<p>School Reserves – Reserves are sums of money that schools carry forward from one year to the next. They arise from underspends and overspends against school allocations over time. Schools are responsible for managing their own finances. The level of reserves held by an individual school will depend on a number of factors. These will include the timing of receipt of income and of payments, and the level of contingency fund the school governing body considers appropriate and the particular plans each school has for expenditure.</p>
	<p>Estyn – Her Majesty’s Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales.</p>
	<p>Flintshire County Council’s Scheme for Financing Schools – The Scheme defines the financial relationship between Flintshire County Council and its maintained schools. The Scheme details the financial management arrangements to which the Authority and its schools are required to adhere. The framework for this Scheme is based on legislative provisions contained in sections 45-53 of the School Standards and Framework Act, 1998 and as further detailed in The School Funding (Wales) Regulations 2010.</p>

Code	School	Delegated budget 2019/20*	2019/20 year end balances	% of budget	2018/19 year end balances	Change between years
123	Brynford	342,428	5,342	1.6%	21,667	-16,325
125	Westwood	802,349	7,775	1.0%	31,670	-23,895
127	Southdown	1,244,614	37,155	3.0%	22,140	15,015
129	Mountain Lane	1,379,217	41,372	3.0%	81,965	-40,592
134	Ysgol Y Esgob	276,805	22,144	8.0%	22,104	40
135	Carmel	651,129	18,157	2.8%	39,487	-21,330
145	Ysgol Y Foel	233,845	4,061	1.7%	4,213	-152
151	Ysgol Parc Y Llan	447,988	28,668	6.4%	28,059	609
156	Bryn Deva	1,026,176	53,136	5.2%	77,197	-24,061
159	Golftyn	1,351,448	49,242	3.6%	73,811	-24,569
161	Wepre	1,111,319	72,831	6.6%	93,907	-21,076
162	Cae'r Nant	1,213,573	62,729	5.2%	79,284	-16,556
175	Drury	536,583	(17,971)	-3.3%	(25,140)	7,170
181	Ewloe Green	1,197,297	111,815	9.3%	75,386	36,430
185	Bryn Garth	393,581	18,214	4.6%	21,282	-3,068
186	Cornist Park	1,022,668	33,631	3.3%	99,161	-65,530
187	Ysgol Croes Atti	695,845	3,315	0.5%	(26,046)	29,361
188	Gwynedd	1,689,428	69,321	4.1%	115,417	-46,096
189	St Mary's	906,103	141,306	15.6%	160,492	-19,186
201	Greenfield	951,789	59,085	6.2%	42,369	16,716
202	Gronant	297,183	52,834	17.8%	6,971	45,863
203	Gwernaffield	386,891	68,820	17.8%	86,761	-17,941
204	Gwernymynydd	319,574	31,971	10.0%	53,612	-21,641
209	Ysgol Gymraeg Mornant	232,101	17,681	7.6%	45,739	-28,059
215	Hawarden Village	1,357,814	30,005	2.2%	86,635	-56,630
218	Penarlag	652,255	7,889	1.2%	34,862	-26,974
221	Ysgol Derwen	655,832	43,928	6.7%	59,047	-15,119
225	St Winefride's	641,134	(16,366)	-2.6%	(3,127)	-13,239
226	Ysgol Gwenffrwd	644,414	83,127	12.9%	64,903	18,224
227	Ysgol Estyn	763,666	21,984	2.9%	14,312	7,672
245	Leeswood	484,582	(10,377)	-2.1%	4,447	-14,824
246	Lixwm	280,920	14,248	5.1%	22,183	-7,936
287	Ysgol Glanrafon	1,090,989	24,741	2.3%	47,906	-23,166
288	Bryn Coch	2,151,513	(89,691)	-4.2%	(16,987)	-72,704
289	Bryn Gwalia	663,154	83,502	12.6%	88,532	-5,030
291	St David's	344,578	14,312	4.2%	14,996	-684
292	Ysgol Bryn Pennant	502,045	30,743	6.1%	24,371	6,372
301	Nannerch	241,944	(17,638)	-7.3%	12,807	-30,445
302	Nercwys	209,144	17,808	8.5%	21,940	-4,132
305	Ysgol Owen Jones	471,767	2,694	0.6%	33,836	-31,142
306	Northop Hall	675,652	69,603	10.3%	57,496	12,107
327	Penyfford Primary	954,632	97,465	10.2%	110,148	-12,683
331	Pentrobin Aided School	447,526	(375)	-0.1%	5,278	-5,653
344	Queensferry	632,476	35,926	5.7%	18,184	17,742
355	Ysgol Rhos Helyg	535,124	54,168	10.1%	33,216	20,952
381	St Anthony's	479,784	16,115	3.4%	17,164	-1,049
382	Saltney Ferry	525,883	18,072	3.4%	30,194	-12,122
383	Wood Memorial	638,259	16,506	2.6%	29,391	-12,885
384	Sandycroft	1,172,329	18,074	1.5%	21,243	-3,170
385	Sealand	726,430	42,688	5.9%	21,602	21,086
386	St Ethelwold's	408,312	13,412	3.3%	8,224	5,188
389	Venerable Edward Morgan	885,894	91,883	10.4%	101,972	-10,089
391	Ty Fynnon	1,113,010	35,806	3.2%	50,253	-14,447
394	Sychdyn	617,861	27,901	4.5%	42,622	-14,721
406	Trelawnyd	336,665	60,823	18.1%	68,085	-7,262
407	Trelogan	335,578	42,316	12.6%	14,948	27,368
409	Ysgol Terrig	269,993	(8,057)	-3.0%	18,875	-26,931
421	Whitford	403,469	4,961	1.2%	24,785	-19,824
422	Abermorddu	697,643	(2,201)	-0.3%	34,223	-36,424
423	Glan Aber	505,992	44,756	8.8%	71,106	-26,351
424	Ysgol Merilyn	585,550	(63,933)	-10.9%	(32,344)	-31,589
425	Broughton Primary	1,720,776	21,495	1.2%	26,697	-5,202
426	Ysgol Mynydd Isa	2,000,319	24,116	1.2%	10,427	13,688
428	Ysgol Maes Y Felin	1,097,838	24,895	2.3%	57,019	-32,125
	Deficits		226,608		103,644	122,964
	Surplus		1,693,348		2,686,627	993,279
	Net	47,632,678	1,919,956	4.0%	2,582,983	663,026

503	Elfed High School	3,819,221	(43,187)	-1.1%	198,622	-241,810
509	Connah's Quay High School	4,491,360	124,042	2.8%	(34,477)	158,520
515	Flint High School	3,763,533	32,031	0.9%	55,680	-23,649
517	St. Richard Gwyn	3,250,533	(542,265)	-16.7%	(508,276)	-33,989
521	Hawarden High School	4,829,037	45,408	0.9%	47,808	-2,400
523	Ysgol Trefynnon	2,367,518	(761,298)	-32.2%	(646,173)	-115,125
525	Castell Alun High School	5,698,472	1,072	0.0%	(8,674)	9,746
529	Alun High School	6,598,362	18,624	0.3%	122,466	-103,842
531	Maes Garmon	2,743,703	(180,110)	-6.6%	(173,177)	-6,933
533	Argoed High School	2,705,957	(12,974)	-0.5%	(56,000)	43,027
551	St. Davids High School	1,903,380	(775,645)	-40.8%	(452,609)	-323,035
	Deficits		(2,315,478)		(1,879,387)	-436,091
	Surplus		221,176		424,576	-203,400
	Net	42,171,076	(2,094,302)	-5.0%	(1,454,811)	-639,491

601	Ysgol Pen Coch	1,868,161	148,408	7.9%	145,830	2,579
602	Ysgol Maes Hyfryd	1,958,592	137,894	7.0%	78,960	58,934
	Surplus	3,826,753	286,303	7.5%	224,789	61,513

Total Net Balances	33,630,506	111,957	0.1%	1,352,961	-1,241,004
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Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn bwrpasol



Protocol for Schools in Financial Difficulty

Created: October 2019

Revised: September 2020

Author: Education & Youth Portfolio Management Team

Introduction

The Flintshire Scheme for Financing Schools prohibits schools from planning for a deficit when preparing their annual budget plans. Governors have no legal right to set a deficit budget without the consent of the Authority and must not presume that such consent will be granted.

In support of the Authority's monitoring and intervention role the scheme requires:

- The governing body of each school to submit a budget plan to the Chief Officer, Education and Youth by the 30th June in each financial year.
- To gain approval for a planned deficit, schools must submit a licensed deficit application in the format prescribed to the Chief Officer Education and Youth to accompany the budget plan by 30th June. This must be approved by the full Governing Body. Approval should be recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the application is reviewed and approved.
- Schools submitting a licensed application must prepare a detailed three or five year budget plan to accompany the application.
- Any unplanned deficits that occur within the financial year due to unforeseen circumstances must be reported as soon as they become known to the school. Approval to carry forward that deficit to the new financial year must be sought through the submission of a licensed deficit application. This must be received within 30 days of the identification of the deficit.

Schools should only apply for a licensed deficit in circumstances where they cannot set a balanced budget without seriously impacting on essential educational provision.

Flintshire County Council has no power to write off the deficit balance of any school and all deficits will remain a liability of the Governing Body until paid back. This applies in all circumstances including during school re-organisation.

Schools must, where possible, avoid the need to apply for a licensed deficit by robustly managing their 3 year budget planning process and being proactive in responding to changes early enough to allow mitigating actions to be implemented.

Where it is found that deficits have occurred as a result of proven financial mismanagement at a school level then Flintshire County Council will consider the merits of enforcing its powers under the Schools Causing Concern statutory guidance (202/2016). The ultimate sanction will be suspension of delegated authority for the governing body to manage a school's budget as detailed in section 5 of that guidance. Flintshire is however committed to working with the Governing Body to ensure this can be avoided wherever possible.

What is the purpose of the Framework?

This framework is intended to act as a mechanism for the Authority to provide schools with an appropriate level of challenge and support to help them set a balanced budget or if this is not achievable to prepare a recovery plan that sets out the action the school will take to achieve a sustainable financial position over an agreed period of time.

The framework will provide schools with an agreed timescale in which to take the action required to balance the budget. A school will normally be expected to deliver its recovery plan within a three year period. This may be extended in exceptional circumstances where a school

cannot deliver a recovery plan over three years without seriously affecting its educational provision or standards.

Support, Monitoring and Challenge

The Authority will provide financial and operational management support and challenge through a network of advisors including Education Officers, Finance Officers and HR Officers.

This may include the provision of:

- Benchmarking data
- Financial analysis
- Audit information
- Regulatory Advice (Estyn, Wales Audit Office, legislation, Flintshire procedural advice)
- Contextual data – e.g. demographic changes
- Focused training sessions relevant to the situation

Any school failing to comply with this framework by taking actions to meet the requirements will be in breach of their financial management responsibilities. This will be challenged and can lead to intervention by the S151 Officer under that local authority statutory powers of intervention.

The process for challenging and supporting schools is defined below:

Step 1: Annual Budgets

Schools must submit budget plans approved by the full Governing Body to the Chief Officer, Education & Youth by 30 June.

Step 2: Trigger/Action

If a school submits a budget plan that shows a deficit budget a licensed deficit application must accompany the budget plan by 30 June. Schools must complete the standard template and detailed spreadsheet financial model. The recovery plan must indicate the actions that will be taken to bring the financial position back into balance. This may be through a combination of income generation and/or a reduction in expenditure and will in most cases result in staffing implications.

If the recovery plan is not deemed robust enough to deliver the savings needed the licensed deficit will be rejected.

Schools will be in breach of financial regulations if they set a deficit budget that has not been approved via the appropriate process

Schools are required to re-apply for a licensed deficit on an annual basis, even where a recovery plan has been agreed previously. This will allow the LA to ensure that the recovery plan is on track to being delivered and mitigates the risk of further changes at the detriment to the schools financial position

Step 3: Governor Approval

In all cases schools must ensure that Governors are accountable for the financial position of the school and the budget plan and deficit must be formally approved by the full governing body. This approval must be recorded in the minutes of the Governing body meeting.

Step 4: School Support and Challenge

Financial advice, information and training will be available to support schools in recovering from a deficit financial position. This will initially be via a financial recovery session that will be set up between the Head teacher, School Business Manager, Senior Manager – School Improvement, Finance Manager, and HR Manager. **Meetings will be held in September and October.**

Following the submission of a licensed deficit plan a number of validation checks will be completed by the Schools Finance Team to ensure that the plans are reasonable. This will be done by: -

- Comparing the current year's income and expenditure budgets with previous years' trends to identify any significant differences.
- Checking that the correct balances have been brought forward into the current year and all funding delegated by the Local Authority has been taken in to account.
- Actions included in the recovery plan are realistic and that by implementing them the required level of savings can be achieved.
- Any areas that are unclear or simply not achievable will be queried with the school and clarification sought.

There are 3 possible outcomes of this meeting:

1. Plans are deemed acceptable and achievable and a recommendation for approval will be made by the Schools Finance Manager and Senior Manager, School Improvement. Final approval will be given by the Chief Officer, Education & Youth and S151 Officer. Written confirmation will be sent to the school once the licensed deficit has been processed by **31 October**.
2. There may be recommendations made for further actions that the school should consider to reduce expenditure. In this instance schools will be required to respond to the recommendations and if appropriate resubmit a licensed deficit application. If a school fails to take account of the recommendations a referral will be made to the Financial Performance Monitoring Group (FPMG). **Schools will be required to respond by 30 November. If the resubmission is satisfactory approval will be given within 14 days.**
3. Where it is considered that a school is unable to achieve a recovery plan without seriously compromising the quality of education for the pupils in the school a referral will be made to the Financial Performance Monitoring Group (FPMG). **Notification of a referral to FPMG will be given to schools within 14 days.**

Step 5: Financial Performance Monitoring Group (FPMG)

This step is for those schools who are unable to show a position of recovery following meetings with the LA. The Chair of Governors, Head Teacher and School Business Manager will be invited to attend a meeting of the FPMG. FPMG will consist of the Chief Executive, Leader of the Council, Chief Officer, Education and Youth, Section 151 Officer.

This will provide the school with an opportunity to explain to the senior leadership of the authority the reasons why they are unable to demonstrate recovery of the deficit.

FPMG will be convened within 6 weeks of referral.

Step 6: Intervention

Intervention is proposed to escalate at three levels. It is envisaged that schools in deficit will engage with the Local Authority well before the need for intervention as these arrangements are the last resort, for the protection of public monies and to protect the overall resource for all schools. The levels of intervention are:

1. 'Notice of Concern' issued to School

A school that fails to take the necessary action will be given a formal 'Notice of Concern', stating the action the Local Authority recommends they should take to bring the budget back in to balance including any charging of interest on the deficit.

2. School given 1 month to respond to 'Notice of Concern'

An explanation will be required from the school about the action being taken to safeguard the school's financial position and why progress to date has not been satisfactory. The school will be subject to LA monitoring for a period of six months following the 'Notice of Concern'. If sufficient confidence is gained that the school is effectively managing the financial position the notice of concern will be removed.

3. Warning Notice

If subsequent to a 'Notice of Concern' being issued financial management at the school continues to be a cause for concern e.g. agreed actions are not undertaken, the LA will issue a formal 'Warning Notice' under the Schools Causing Concern statutory guidance (202/2016) and the LA will consider use of the statutory powers at its disposal. This may include:

- appointment of additional governors
- suspension of delegation
- appointment of an Interim Executive Board (IEB)

4. Suspension of delegated financial powers

Where the LA considers that insufficient progress or cooperation has been made a decision will be made by the Chief Education Officer, Education & Youth and S151 Officer to suspend delegation. Under suspension the authority would take control of the budget and take the necessary action before returning control to the Governing Body. During the suspension school staff would be responsible to the authority for the day-to-day financial administration in the school and all budgetary decisions will be removed from the school.

Removal of delegated powers will apply where:

- The school is persistently in breach of the Scheme for Financing Schools
- The school will not set a balanced budget
- The school will not engage in the licensed deficit process
- The deficit is worsening and no action is being taken by the school
- There is evidence of financial mismanagement by the school
- A school in special measures has not demonstrated commitment to making better use of resources or achieving value for money

Flintshire County Council Licensed Deficit Application and Recovery Plan

School Name _____

What level of deficit are you applying for:-

<u>2019/2020</u>	<u>2020/2021</u>	<u>2021/2022</u>	<u>2022/2023</u>	<u>2023/2024</u>
£	£	£	£	£
£0,000	£0,000	£0,000	£0,000	£0,000

There is an expectation that schools will recover deficit budgets within 3 years and in exceptional circumstances 5 years. Please document the reasons in the box below if the deficit application exceeds 3 years.

Schools must attach the detailed financial plan spreadsheet for the period of the deficit. Please support the financial plan with relevant staffing details.

Reason for Deficit

Please include in this section the reasons for the deficit budget and the circumstances leading up to the current position

Recovery Plan

Please include in this section a detailed narration of the recovery plan including the action to be taken and detailed timescales which link in with your agreed projections as approved by your full governing body. (Please attach a copy of the minutes from your full governing body as evidence of approval)

Action	Target Date	Value of Saving £

Additional Information to support your request for an agreed deficit.

School

Signed _____ **Headteacher** **Date** _____

Signed _____ **Chair of the Governing
Body** **Date** _____

Signed _____ **Chair of the Finance
Committee** **Date** _____

Authority

Signed _____ **Chief Education Officer** **Date** _____

Signed _____ **Chief Finance Officer** **Date** _____

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn bwrpasol

Eitem ar gyfer y Rhaglen 8



EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday 5 th November, 2020
Report Subject	Recovery Strategy Update
Cabinet Member	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Report Author	Chief Officer (Education and Youth)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council has developed a corporate Recovery Strategy for the pandemic emergency situation which was endorsed at a special Cabinet meeting on 15 September.

Cabinet requested each of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees to support recovery in their respective portfolio areas, and specifically to have oversight of:-

1. The portfolio risk register(s) and the risk mitigation actions, both live and planned;
2. The objectives for recovery for the portfolio(s);
3. The immediate strategic priorities for recovery for the portfolio(s) extracted from the draft Council Plan for 2020/21; and
4. The set of revised performance indicator targets for the portfolio(s) for 2020/21.

The above were considered by the Committee at its meeting on 28 September, 2020.

This report provides the Committee with an update on the portfolio risk register and risk mitigation actions (shown at Appendix 1 and 2).

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That the Committee review the latest updated risk register and risk mitigation actions within the Education & Youth portfolio.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EMERGENCY RECOVERY
1.01	<p>The Council is developing a corporate Recovery Strategy for the pandemic emergency situation. The Strategy covers:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The chronology of the emergency response phase and transition to recovery 2. The handover arrangements or recovery 3. Organisational recovery of the corporate organisation 4. Community recovery of the communities we serve 5. Strategic priorities and performance for the remainder of 2020/21 6. The roles the Council will play in regional recovery 7. The democratic governance of recovery
1.02	<p>The development of the Recovery Strategy been led by the Chief Executive and Leader and overseen by a cross-party Member Recovery Board. The Board, which is an advisory sub-committee of Cabinet, has completed its work and has stood down. The Board has met seven times in quick succession and has received multiple reports and presentations. Cabinet is due to endorse the Recovery Strategy at a special meeting on 15 September.</p>
1.03	<p>Cabinet will be inviting each of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees to support recovery in their respective portfolio areas, and specifically to have oversight of:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The portfolio risk register(s) and the risk mitigation actions both live and planned; 2. The objectives for recovery for the portfolio(s); 3. The immediate strategic priorities for recovery for the portfolio(s) extracted from the draft Council Plan for 2020/21; and 4. The set of revised performance indicator targets for the portfolio(s) for 2020/21.
1.04	<p>The latest version of the risk register (Appendix 1) and table of risk mitigations (Appendix 2) for the Corporate Services portfolio are attached.</p>
1.05	<p>An update on the recovery objectives for the service portfolio for this Committee is shown below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To repurpose schools including funded settings back to the provision of statutory education: All schools have successfully reopened from September and are delivering education to their learners. This is now a blended learning approach – mostly face to face but with some online learning when cohorts have to be sent into isolation as the result of a positive case of Covid-19 within the school. • To meet statutory requirements for Youth Service, Youth Justice and Youth Homelessness Prevention Services: Statutory IYP Youth Service delivery (WG Youth Work Strategy for Wales 2019) , has adapted to a blended digital provision when and where

building provision is not possible. Staff have engaged in specific training to deliver the new model. The new website is key to supporting the holistic approach. The recovery plan extends to school provision and to broader partner agencies funded by IYP. We are supporting all delivery collaboratively by delivering a rights based approach. All equalities areas are considered and all provision is bilingual. A transition programme has been introduced online to support children to transition from primary to secondary school and to support young people to transition back in to education following lockdown.

Our IYP homelessness prevention programme (WG Ten Year Homelessness Plan for Wales 2009-2019) is effectively engaging with potential homeless young people at the earliest opportunities by placing a youth worker within FCC housing, and by fully engaging with the WG homelessness prevention programme on a national and regional level.

Our IYP hospital based youth work provision (Inspire) has moved to a blended digital model during Covid 19. The programme is reporting high uptake from our most at risk young people, e.g. suicide ideation cases.

Youth services staff have actively engaged in a whole service digital training and an innovative coaching and wellbeing support programme to support staff wellbeing. Staff have stated that the programme has effectively supported them to support our young people cohort and their own families to stay well and positive during the Covid 19 crisis.

IYP have formed a robust partnership with the URDD, the national Welsh language youth organisation to ensure all provision is bilingual and supports WG objectives for Cymraeg 2050. All Families First anti poverty provision (WG families First 2010 – 2020) and all play provision (WG 2020 Play Policy) have continued to support our most vulnerable children and young people in an adapted response during Covid-19.

The Youth Justice Service is responding to all referrals made from North Wales Police, HM Courts and Tribunal Service and partner agencies. The YJS has continued to provide Police Station (Appropriate Adult) cover in line with the Police and Criminal Evidence Act (1984) and continues to staff Youth, Remand and Saturday Courts as required. The YJS is continuing to operate Referral Order Panels virtually in line with the Youth Justice and Criminal Evidence Act 1999. The YJS continues to operate its Prevention and Out of Court Panels.

- **To meet statutory National Standards for Youth Justice**

The Youth Justice Service has a Recovery Plan in place to support its operational and strategic responsibilities. This plan was approved by the YJS Executive Management Board in September. The YJS continues to accept Prevention, Out of Court and Court related referrals and in the most part has been engaging with young people via virtual means. As part of our Business Continuity Plan staff have been instructed to increase virtual contact above National Standard requirements.

The YJS Management Team continue to meet weekly to review all cases

where young people are assessed as high risk of offending, serious harm, safety and wellbeing concerns or where young people are failing to respond to virtual attempts to engage and a process is in place to assess the suitability of doorstep welfare visits. In addition an Escalation Register is in operation with Senior Managers to elevate concerns or request other community visits. The YJS Education Officer continues to review cases where young people are not accessing their full entitlement of education, training or employment and is working with agencies to address these issues. The YJS is currently unable to offer Unpaid Work / Reparation in the community due to Covid restrictions, however, virtual methods are being explored. Due to Covid restrictions (including those affecting unpaid work and reparation) we are currently unable to offer the full 25 hours of weekly intervention to Intensive Supervision and Surveillance Orders (direct alternative to custody), however, we will attempt to meet as many of the statutory elements as possible. However, currently no such Orders have been made by the Court during the pandemic.

- **To ensure young people reintegrate back into education, health and substance misuse services.**

Officers have collaborated with local health services to support the continued engagement with services such as speech & language therapy, occupational therapy and Children & Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS). Operational profiles for health services have been shared with schools to support and inform engagement and weekly meetings are held between education, social care and health managers to review and address any presenting issues.

- **To deliver targeted interventions and support to children, families and schools.**

A range of intervention and support is provided through the Inclusion & Progression services, e.g. Education Welfare, English as an Additional Language/Gypsy Traveller, Sensory, Counselling etc to children, families and schools. Services have adapted to be able to offer support and intervention in a variety of ways including direct contact where this has been deemed necessary and safe to undertake, and via remote online platforms. These adaptations are enabling services to respond in the main to the challenges presented by the current Covid-19 restrictions.

- **To comply with the statutory duties under the Special Education Needs (SEN) Code of Practice for Wales**

The Council has a range of duties under the Code in relation to children with SEN. This includes undertaking a statutory assessment of an individual's needs and identifying/providing specialist intervention and provision to meet the needs. This process involves a range of education and health professionals as part of the assessment process and subsequent intervention. There remains a number of challenges around the completion of detailed assessments in the current climate but services are working flexibly and creatively to try and address these.

- **To re-open North East Wales Archives, Hawarden, to the public (formerly Flintshire Record Office)**

The Archive has been open to the public since mid-September. We

	<p>opened one day a week through September and two days in October. It was planned to increase to three days in November this is currently under review in light of the national firebreak. There are suitable COVID restrictions in place – we require advance booking and ordering of documents so that all material can be quarantined for 72 hours before and after use; we are closed over the lunch period to enable cleaning of work spaces and the equipment used. Visitors are responding positively to the changes put in place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>To support staff to have a positive pathway to return to the work place</p> <p>All staff within the Portfolio have regular team meetings and 1-1 catch up with their Managers which supports their wellbeing as well as their work streams. Risk assessments are in place to ensure the safety of staff in the buildings to which they will eventually return to work when this is appropriate. Support services e.g. Care First and Occupation Health are used as necessary to support individuals alongside individual support plans agreed with Managers.</p>
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2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	There are no specific resource implications from this report.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	None specific as this report is based on documented response and recovery work.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	This report specifically covers emergency situation risk management.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – Updated Education & Youth Recovery Risk Register Appendix 2 – Updated Education & Youth Risk Mitigation Actions

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
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7.01	Contact Officer: Claire Homard Telephone: 01352 704601 E-mail: Claire.homard@flintshire.gov.uk

Education and Youth Portfolio Risk Register

Version 05

Reviewed: 22.10.20

Risk Register - Part 1 (Portfolio Management)

Finance

Key	
Underlying Risk Rating	The risk rating before any mitigating actions
Current Risk Rating	This risk rating following the planned mitigation actions
Target Risk Rating	The risk rating which is realistically achievable and by when
Risk Trend	The trend of the risk since the last review date
Risk Status	Open denotes a live risk Closed denotes a closed risk
*Denotes the risk is specific to the 'Recovery'	
EY	Education and Youth

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Underlying Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Target Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
EY01	Secondary schools are not financially viable due to insufficient base funding	Strategic	Claire Homard	David Bateman/Lucy Morris	R	R	A Open	A ↔	Open
EY02 Updated Oct 2020	Inability to delivery statutory Youth Services due to uncertainty about grant funding Note: risk closed due to Full year funding received for statutory service areas	Strategic	Ann Roberts	James Warr	A	G	G Open	G ↓	Closed
EY04	Increased financial costs to the Inclusion Service due to legal challenges	Strategic	Claire Homard	Jeanette Rock	R	A	A Q2 2021/22	G ↓	Open
EY05	Insufficient financial resources to support children and young people's emotional health	Strategic	Claire Homard	Jeanette Rock/Ann Roberts	A	Y	A Open	G ↓	Open
EY06	Insufficient funding to deliver new archive premises	Strategic	Claire Harrington	Claire Homard	R	A	A Q4 2021/22	A ↔	Open

Workforce

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Underlying Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Target Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
EY07	Capacity on service delivery is impacted by portfolio workforce absence	Operational	Claire Homard	DMT	Y	G	G Q4 2021/22	G ↓	Open

Property & Assets

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Underlying Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Target Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
EY11	Fluctuating pupil demography impacts on sufficiency of school places	Strategic	Damian Hughes	n/a	A	Y	Y Open	G ↓	Open
EY12	Deteriorating school buildings adversely impacts on curriculum delivery	Strategic	Damian Hughes	n/a	A	Y	Y Open	G ↓	Open

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Underlying Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Target Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
EY13	Inability to fully deliver on Welsh Government 21 st Century School Building Programme due to financial, workforce and contractor implications	Strategic	Claire Homard	Damian Hughes	A	A	Y Open	A ↔	Open
EY14	Welsh Government Childcare Capital programme is not fully completed resulting in a reduction of childcare places	Strategic	Gail Bennett	Byra Foulkes	R	A	A Q4 2021/22	A ↔	Open

Governance/Legal

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Underlying Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Target Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
EY15	Non-compliance with the Additional Learning Needs Education Tribunal (ALNET) Act 2018	Strategic	Jeanette Rock	Paula Roberts	Y	Y	G Q2 2021/22	A ↔	Open
EY16	Failure to make statutory provision for learners with Special Educational Needs (SEN) due to resource availability	Operational	Jeanette Rock	Paula Roberts	R	A	Y Q2 2021/22	G ↓	Open
EY17	Failure to meet the statutory targets in the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan due to insufficient parental take up of Welsh medium education	Strategic	Claire Homard	Vicky Barlow	A	A	Y Q4 2030/31	A ↔	Open
EY18 Updated Oct 2020	Young people unable to access counselling services due to the closure of schools Note: risk closed. The Counselling service is currently accessing training to be able to offer on-line and telephone counselling as an additional /alternative model of service delivery	Operational	Jeanette Rock	Nigel Pattinson	A	G	G Q4 2021/22	G ↓	Closed
EY19	Insufficient local education provision to support learners with mental health needs	Operational	Jeanette Rock	Tim Ford / John Grant	R	A	Y Q2 2022/23	G ↓	Open
EY20	Increased number of Special Educational Needs Tribunals due to an inability to meet the statutory assessment process requirements and accurately identify individual needs (link to EY 16)	Operational	Jeanette Rock	Paula Roberts/Nigel Pattinson	A	Y	Y Q2 2021/22	G ↓	Open

External Regulation

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Underlying Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Target Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
EY22	Inability to meet the recommendations arising from the Local Authority's Estyn Inspection 2019	Strategic	Claire Homard	Vicky Barlow	A	Y	G Q4 2022	G ↓	Open
EY23	Poor outcome of Ministry of Justice Inspection due to non-compliance with National Youth Justice Standards and ineffective governance from Youth Justice Board	Strategic	Ann Roberts	James Warr	A	Y	G Q4 2021/22	G ↓	Open

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Underlying Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Target Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
EY24	Inability to meet national archive accreditation standards due to poor quality of the accommodation	Strategic	Claire Harrington	Claire Homard	A	Y	G Q4 2024/25	G ↓	Open

Risk Register - Part 2 (Portfolio Service & Performance)

School Improvement

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Underlying Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Target Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
EY25	Schools insufficiently prepared to implement new curriculum which impacts adversely on learners	Strategic	Vicky Barlow	Primary Learning Adviser post - vacant	A	Y	G Q2 2021/22	G ↓	Open
EY26	Ineffective school leadership results in poor pupil outcomes which increases risk of schools being placed in statutory Estyn categories	Strategic	Vicky Barlow	Primary Learning Adviser post - vacant	A	Y	G Open	G ↓	Open
EY27	School leadership and governance is ineffective due to lack of engagement in professional development and support programmes	Operational	Vicky Barlow	Kim Brookes	Y	Y	G Open	A ↔	Open
Tudalen EY28	Ineffective school leadership results in standards of Welsh in schools falling below the national average	Operational	Vicky Barlow	Rhian Roberts	A	Y	Y Open	G ↓	Open
73 EY29	Reduced performance in Science, Technology , Engineering and Maths subjects at Post 16 could impact on access to local apprenticeships and progression into higher education	Operational	Vicky Barlow	-	Y	Y	G Open	G ↓	Open
EY33 New	Inability of schools to operate safely and deliver statutory education due to reduction in staffing levels	Operational	Claire Homard	Vicky Barlow	Y	A	Y Open	R ↑	Open

Inclusion & Progression

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Underlying Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Target Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
EY30	Increased numbers of young people not in Education, Training & Employment due to lack of pupil engagement	Operational	Jeanette Rock	John Grant	Y	Y	G Q4 2022/23	A ↔	Open

Integrated Youth Provision

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Underlying Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Target Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
EY31	Increase in young people subject to intervention by the Youth Justice Services due to the impact of school closures and revised service delivery models	Operational	Ann Roberts	James Warr	A	Y	G Q4 2021/22	G ↓	Open
EY32	Young people in the Youth Justice Service not accessing minimum statutory education offer due to lack of pupil engagement	Strategic	Ann Roberts	James Warr	A	A	G Q4 2021/22	A ↔	Open

Previously Closed Risks

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Type	Lead Officer	Supporting Officers	Underlying Risk Rating	Current Risk Rating	Target Risk Rating	Risk Trend	Risk Status
EY03	Inability to deliver Inclusion & Progression Services due to uncertainty about grant funding	Strategic	Jeanette Rock	John Grant/ Lisa Davies	A	G	G Q3 2020/21	G ↓	Closed
*EY08	Inability to provide emergency childcare provision during school closure period due to workforce availability	Operational	Vicky Barlow	Jeanette Rock	A	G	G Q2 2020/21	G ↓	Closed
*EY09	Insufficient emergency childcare provision in summer holidays if school hubs directed to close by Welsh Government	Operational	Claire Homard	Vicky Barlow	A	Y	G Q2 2020/21	G ↓	Closed
*EY10	Inability of schools to reOpen safely to deliver statutory education due to reductions in workforce, availability of sufficient PPE and infrastructure (catering/transport)	Strategic	Claire Homard	Vicky Barlow	R	A	G Q3 2020/21	G ↓	Closed
*EY21	Reduced safeguarding referrals due to school closures	Strategic	Claire Homard	Vicky Barlow	R	Y	Y Q2 2020/21	G ↓	Closed

Risk Matrix

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Impact Severity	Catastrophic	Y	A	R	R	B	B
	Critical	Y	A	A	R	R	R
	Significant	G	G	Y	A	A	R
	Marginal	G	G	G	Y	Y	A
		Unlikely	Very Low	Low	High	Very High	Extremely High
Likelihood of risk happening							

Education & Youth Portfolio Risk Register

Version 05

Reviewed: 22.10.20

Part 1 (Portfolio Management)

Financial

Mitigation Urgency Key	
IM – Immediate	Now
ST – Short Term	Within 1 month
MT – Medium Term	1 month plus
Upward arrow	Risk increasing
Downward arrow	Risk decreasing
Sideways arrow	No change in risk
*Denotes the risk is specific to 'Recovery'	

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Trend	Mitigation Urgency	Mitigating Actions
EY01	Secondary schools are not financially viable due to insufficient base funding	↔	MT	Risk associated with insufficient base budgets for secondary schools is included in the MTFS. There is on-going work with secondary head teachers to review the secondary schools funding formula with eventual consultation with the Schools' Budget Forum.
Tue 75 EY02 Closed	Inability to deliver statutory Youth Services due to uncertainty about grant funding	↓	MT	Closed risk Full year funding received for statutory service areas and being delivered with remote and digital methods. Risk closed.
EY04	Increased financial costs to the Inclusion Service due to legal challenges	↓	MT	Officers are working with schools and parents/carers to negotiate the continuation of additional provision in the interim period to offset the need for statutory assessment. The cases are also discussed by Inclusion Service senior managers to determine whether any other alternatives are available to the child with regards provision or support to ensure all internal options have been considered and shared with the parent/carer. Where parents/carers have made an appeal, this information is being escalated to DMT and the legal team to ensure awareness of the number of appeals and officer support requirements. The actions appear to be impacting on the level of appeal to the SEN Tribunal with the outcome that the number is currently low, resulting in a reduced level of anticipated costs and a downward risk trend.
EY05	Insufficient financial resources to support children and young people's emotional health	↓	ST	There are insufficient financial resources to support children and young people's emotional health therefore the alternative approaches to securing resources are sought such as promoting free access to 'Solihull' approaches to parenting to support parents/carers in managing their children; Additional training provided to schools on strategies/programmes to support emotional health and wellbeing via Wales Government grant; Schools

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Trend	Mitigation Urgency	Mitigating Actions
				promoting online materials to support emotional health and wellbeing during school closure; use of the Integrated Youth Provision social media platform.
EY06 Tudalen 76 Workforce	Insufficient funding to deliver new archive premises	↔	MT	The Archive Project Board of senior officers and political leaders meets regularly to monitor progress of the bid. There is Cabinet and Executive support for the bid to National lottery Heritage Fund with formal commitment to provide capital funding to top up the scheme. There is effective project management in place ensuring project is progressing within budget and timescales. There is a project action plan in place to complete Stage 1 bid by deadline of February 2021. There is effective working with the Museums and Libraries Division of Welsh Government who are supportive of the bid and providing expert advice and gives the bid credence. There is support from The National Archive for the bid and partnership working in place. An expert consultant has been procured with significant expertise in developing heritage funding bids to increase likelihood of success.

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Trend	Mitigation Urgency	Mitigating Actions
EY07 Updated	Capacity on service delivery is impacted by workforce absence	↓	IM	Managers are well versed in applying the corporate Attendance Management policy and processes. In addition there is the availability of clear protocols for absences arising from the current emergency which are being applied when necessary within the portfolio. Quarterly attendance management figures are reported to Portfolio Senior Management Team with individual case work being followed up. Currently sickness absence levels are the lowest for some time with no significant impact on service delivery. The risk of absence impacting adversely on service delivery is reducing.

Property & Assets

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Trend	Mitigation Urgency	Mitigating Actions
EY11	Fluctuating pupil demography impacts on sufficiency of school places	↓	MT	Pupil number projections are reviewed bi-annually. This data assists in developing priorities for the Council’s schools investment programme for schools and helps understand potential issues and possible mitigation measures associated with local development plan, to this end there are regular meetings with the Planning Team.

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Trend	Mitigation Urgency	Mitigating Actions
EY12	Deteriorating school buildings adversely impacts on curriculum delivery	↓	MT	All schools are subject to 5 year condition survey. Through the Council's annual repairs and maintenance programme and the 21 st Century Capital investment funding, the risk from deteriorating school buildings impacting on curriculum delivery is reducing. All schools continue to deliver an effective curriculum. The Council continues to bid for other external capital funding to be invested in the school estate.
EY13	Inability to fully deliver on Welsh Government 21 st Century School Building Programme due to financial, workforce and contractor implications	↔	MT	There is regular dialogue between the Council and the North Wales Construction Partnership contractors and supply chain, and also with Wales Government to mitigate against problems arising from funding, the workforce or from the contractor. The risk continues to be managed.
EY14	Welsh Government Childcare Capital programme is not fully completed resulting in a reduction of childcare places	↔	MT	There is regular monitoring of risks at Portfolio Senior Management Team and quarterly reports to Welsh Government. A contractor has been commissioned to work up actual costs and site risks for the individual projects. These are escalated to the Capital Assets Board as necessary.

Governance/Legal

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Trend	Mitigation Urgency	Mitigating Actions
EY15	Non-compliance with the Additional Learning Needs Education Tribunal (ALNET) Act 2018	↔	MT	Progress against the Council's Transformation Plan in relation to the implementation of the new Act from September 2021 is monitored at service and senior management level. Potential financial risks are reported through portfolio finance meetings and the Mid Term Financial Strategy monitoring systems. Progress is also measured through regular stakeholder meetings and meetings of the regional leads which include the regional Additional Learning Needs Transformation Lead who meets regularly with WG. Current measures confirm the Council continues to be compliant. Wales Government have recently indicated that the Guidance Code will not be published until February 2021 as opposed to December 2020. Work will continue against the current Transformation Plan but changes may need to be implemented quickly in response to the published Code.

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Trend	Mitigation Urgency	Mitigating Actions
EY16	Failure to make statutory provision for learners with Special Educational Needs (SEN) due to resource availability	↓	ST	<p>Education and Health professionals are developing ways in which they can complete their statutory responsibilities in relation to the statutory assessment process for children with SEN to ensure the Council is able to make specialist placement decisions. These include the use of video platforms and the establishment of clinical rooms where the child and the assessor are separated by a Perspex screen. Services are also engaging with their respective professional bodies who are in many cases providing advice and guidance on how to complete their roles whilst maintaining social distancing.</p> <p>Officers are working with schools and parents/carers to negotiate the continuation of existing additional provision in the interim period to offset the need for statutory assessment and change of educational placement.</p>
EY17	Failure to meet the statutory targets in the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan due to insufficient parental take up of Welsh medium education	↔	MT	<p>The annual update of the Welsh In Education Strategic Plan includes information from parental demand surveys. The Authority is on track to expand Welsh medium capacity at three school sites through its capital programme. Progress against statutory targets are monitored quarterly by the Forum with annual reports to Scrutiny Committee.</p>
EY18 Closed	Young people unable to access counselling services due to the closure of schools	↓	ST	<p>Closed Risk</p> <p>The Counselling service is currently accessing training to be able to offer on-line and telephone counselling as an additional /alternative model of service delivery. Counsellors have undergone training to deliver on line where required. Alternative settings to schools have also been sourced and used during the school holidays and the service is compiling a bank of suitable settings for future use if necessary.</p>
EY19	Insufficient local education provision to support learners with mental health needs	↓	MT	<p>Specialist teams within the Inclusion & Progression Service are working regionally with other LAs and health colleagues to develop resources to support the transition from hubs back to school on the 29 June. There is a working group currently looking at how schools can offer increased targeted support to individuals with mental health difficulties. A review has been undertaken of the Council's current specialist provision with the findings having been collated into a report; this will form the basis of a business case application for further resource and investment. Capacity will be increased from September 2021 with the new build for Plas Derwen Portfolio Pupil Referral Unit.</p>

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Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Trend	Mitigation Urgency	Mitigating Actions
EY20	Increased number of Special Educational Needs Tribunals due to an inability to meet the statutory assessment process requirements and accurately identify individual needs (link to EY 16)	↓	MT	<p>Education and Health professionals are developing ways in which they can complete their statutory responsibilities to ensure the Council’s SEN Moderation Panel has access to the level of information required to support informed decision making for children with SEN. These include the use of video platforms and the establishment of clinical rooms where the child and the assessor are separated by a Perspex screen. Services are also engaging with their respective professional bodies who are in many cases providing advice and guidance on how to complete their roles whilst maintaining social distancing.</p> <p>Officers are working with schools and parents/carers to negotiate the continuation of existing additional provision in the interim period to offset the need for statutory assessment and change of educational placement.</p> <p>Assessment of pupils continues to pose challenges however, sufficient information was received to inform placements for the beginning of the new academic year. The reopening of schools will offer greater opportunities for direct contact although the situation with positive Covid cases may affect the future risk level.</p>

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Internal Regulation

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Trend	Mitigation Urgency	Mitigating Actions
EY22	Inability to meet the recommendations arising from the Local Authority’s Estyn Inspection 2019	↓	MT	The Post Inspection Action Plan has been incorporated into the Council Plan 20220/21 and the Portfolio’s business Plan. Plans are monitored at senior management team meetings weekly and the Senior Team meet termly with Estyn’s Local Registered Inspectors to monitor the delivery of actions to meet the targeted recommendations. The Plan is reported annually to Cabinet and Scrutiny. Current progression against the actions are on target.
EY23	Poor outcome of Ministry of Justice Inspection due to non-compliance with National Youth Justice Standards and ineffective governance from Youth Justice Board	↓	MT	Youth Justice Board have agreed the recovery plan for the service and regularly review the associated risk assessment..

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Trend	Mitigation Urgency	Mitigating Actions
EY24	Inability to meet national archive accreditation standards due to poor quality of the accommodation	↓	MT	The National Archive has agreed to a deferment of Flintshire’s next accreditation against the standards to allow time for the outcome of the bid and potential solution to the accommodation issue to be found.

Part 2 (Portfolio Service & Performance)

School Improvement

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Trend	Mitigation Urgency	Mitigating Actions
Tudalen 80 EY25	Schools insufficiently prepared to implement new curriculum which impacts adversely on learners	↓	MT	Regional and local Business Plans have been written identifying the required actions needed by schools to ensure they are prepared. Whilst preparations by schools was limited during the repurposing period, the regional school improvement service has continued to provide universal and bespoke support to schools as appropriate. Professional development and collaboration has continued virtually where possible. Cluster meetings for Flintshire schools have continued remotely. The fortnightly meetings between local authority and regional school improvement service continue, with a focus on developing distance and blended learning. The GwE Management Board attended by the Chief Officer receive and monitor update reports. Likewise, there are regular updates to the Joint Consultative Committee attended by the Lead member for Education and the Chief Education Officer.
EY26	Ineffective school leadership results in poor pupil outcomes which increases risk of schools being placed in statutory Estyn categories	↓	MT	Local Business Plan has been written identifying targeted support needed. Progress against this is a standing item at the Standards Quality Board meeting with identified risks being flagged through DMT, Programme Board, Overview & Scrutiny meetings. The portfolio Business Plan identifies targeted support for those schools in need with identified risks being flagged through Senior Management Team. Currently all inspection activity by Estyn is suspended until further notice. There will be no further inspections during 2020- 2021. National and local focus is on planning and preparation for implementation of the new curriculum.

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Trend	Mitigation Urgency	Mitigating Actions
EY27	School leadership and governance is ineffective due to lack of engagement in professional development and support programmes	↔	MT	<p>There is a comprehensive professional leadership development programme in place nationally and regionally for school leaders. Programmes that have been suspended due to the pandemic are being moved to online virtual arrangements with work underway nationally and locally. The NPQH programme for aspiring Headteachers is currently open for the next round of applications. Bespoke support is still available for Flintshire Heads through LA officers and GwE advisers.</p> <p>There is a regional protocol in place for supporting schools with senior leadership appointments, including headteacher and deputy headteacher appointments. This is continuing to support appointments virtually. School Governors have dedicated officer support and the Council funds access to Governors Cymru advisory service for all schools. Governors have access to on-line statutory modules and professional development through the regional school improvement service.</p>
Tudalen 81 EY28	Ineffective school leadership results in standards of Welsh in schools falling below the national average	↓	MT	<p>Action Plans have been written identifying the required activity needed to meet the Authority's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan targets. There are regular meetings between the senior manager for school improvement and the service manager for Welsh to monitor engagement and progress of schools. There are high levels of engagement between portfolio managers and the regional school improvement service to ensure resources are targeted appropriately. The regional plan includes support for improving outcomes in Welsh at key stages 3 and 4. The summer term meeting of the Welsh in Education Strategic Forum (WESP) was cancelled due to the pandemic. The autumn term meeting will take place virtually.</p>
EY29	Reduced performance in Science, Technology , Engineering and Maths subjects at Post 16 could impact on access to local apprenticeships and progression into higher education	↓	MT	<p>There is a regional lead for post 16 now in place. The Business plan for post 16 is incorporated into regional and local planning. Schools have access to subject advisers and regional subject forums. There are fortnightly meetings between the local authority and regional school improvement service to monitor engagement and progress of schools, and regular stakeholder meetings to ensure communication at all appropriate level. Schools are reporting after 2020 A Level results that nearly all learners were able to progress to their preferred choice of course, however, destination data is not yet available to verify this.</p>
EY33 New	Inability of schools to operate safely and deliver statutory	↑	MT	<p>At the start of the new academic year numbers of teaching and support staff not able to return to work due to Covid-19 were very low. Since mid -September there has been a significant rise</p>

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Trend	Mitigation Urgency	Mitigating Actions
	education due to reduction in staffing levels			<p>in the number of Covid related absences in the school workforce. This is due to three main factors: the number of school staff testing positive for Covid; the number of staff having to self-isolate because they are an identified contact of a Covid case or they are parents of children who have been directed to self-isolate from their schools. No school has had to fully close yet as a result of these staffing pressures but two schools had to close their Nursery provision for short periods due to the unavailability of their early years' workforce.</p> <p>In order to support schools to continue to operate safely there exists a robust support process in place between TTP and Environmental Health to quickly take action when a positive case in a school is identified.</p>

Inclusion & Progression

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Trend	Mitigation Urgency	Mitigating Actions
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">TU 82</p> <p>EY30</p>	Increased numbers of young people not in Education, Training & Employment due to lack of pupil engagement	↔	MT	<p>The Inclusion & Progression service continues to work in collaboration with a range of internal and external services to identify pupils at risk of disengagement via the range of data sources and tools available. There continues to be regular dialogue with pastoral leads in secondary schools and local further education institutes and training providers to ensure suitable transition arrangements are in place to support continued engagement for pupils leaving Year 11. Fortnightly education panels are conducted where targeted young people are monitored in terms of their engagement and transition arrangements to ensure alternative support and intervention is identified where required.</p>

Integrated Youth Provision

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Trend	Mitigation Urgency	Mitigating Actions
EY31	Increase in young people subject to intervention by the Youth Justice Services due to the impact of school closures and revised service delivery models	↓	ST	The new Education Officer within the YJS is now in post and the reopening of schools the number of young people subject to intervention by the YJS remains stable.
EY32	Young people in the Youth Justice Service not accessing minimum statutory education offer due to lack of pupil engagement	↔	ST	The YJS has recommenced monthly Education Meetings internally to monitor the engagement with this cohort.

Previously Closed Risks

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Trend	Mitigation Urgency	Mitigating Actions
EY03	Inability to deliver Inclusion & Progression Services due to uncertainty about grant funding	↓	MT	-
*EY08	Inability to provide emergency childcare provision during school closure period due to workforce availability	↓	MT	-
*EY09	Insufficient emergency childcare provision in summer holidays if school hubs directed to close by Welsh Government	↓	MT	-

Risk Ref.	Risk Title	Risk Trend	Mitigation Urgency	Mitigating Actions
*EY10	Inability of schools to reopen safely to deliver statutory education due to reductions in workforce, availability of sufficient PPE and infrastructure (catering/transport)	↓	MT	-
*EY21	Reduced safeguarding referrals due to school closures	↓	MT	-

Eitem ar gyfer y Rhaglen 9



EDUCATION, YOUTH AND CULTURE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday, 5 th November 2020
Report Subject	Youth Services
Cabinet Member	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Report Author	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Flintshire Integrated Youth Provision (FIYP) is innovating services for young people.

The innovation reflects the impacts of, and lessons from, the pandemic emergency response and changes in national and local context. This represents a next step in the Council's corporate Recovery Strategy for the pandemic emergency response.

FIYP proposes a blended service offering that prioritises greater:

1. Digital and remote engagement with young people;
2. Targeted prevention work within communities and with partners to build resilience and well-being for more vulnerable children and young people;
3. Equity for Welsh medium provision across all FIYP services;
4. Partnership work with schools to support young people at risk of not engaging with education; and
5. Support for staff and quality practices.

The proposal delivers potential annual savings of £98.6k representing a 49% saving on premises and 20% on staffing.

FIYP will consult young people, FIYP and Council staff and statutory and community partners about proposals in the period ending January 2021. This will inform the development of a FIYP Plan 2021-2024, for launch in Q1 2021/22.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To approve FIYP consultation on developing the FIYP Plan 2021-2024.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	DEVELOPMENT OF FLINTSHIRE YOUTH SERVICES
1.01	<p>The Learning and Skills Act 2000 s.123 obliges local authorities to provide and/or secure the provision of Youth Support Services (youth services). Youth workers provide these services, with 'youth work' a recognised methodology for working with young people, underpinned by National Occupational Standards and regulated professional qualifications.</p>
1.02	<p>Since 2010, traditional youth service activities in Wales, which were mainly community-based, drop-in and open-access have reduced. Reasons for this include national and local policy change, young people's growing preference for digital interaction and more time on school-related activities such as study.</p> <p>Some local authorities no longer operate any regular open-access youth clubs. Coming into 2020, Flintshire has sustained 13 youth clubs.</p>
1.03	<p>The national and local policy context focuses youth service activities to more targeted provision. This provision takes place within various settings, including schools, homes and in communities. This includes dedicated provision for young people more at risk of poor outcomes such as young carers and young people with disabilities, at risk of exclusion, having unhealthy relationships and with emotional and mental health problems.</p> <p>National policy changes include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Requirements for youth work approaches in providing emotional and mental health support and to coordinate activity to meet statutory requirements for a Youth Homelessness Prevention Service since 2019/20; 2. Curriculum for Wales 2020; 3. Estyn framework for inspection of secondary schools requires that the school makes appropriate use of partners to provide effective support for pupils where that is required (area 4); and 4. Families First requirements for young people programmes. <p>Local priorities include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Youth homelessness where Flintshire young people aged 16-24 have represented 23% of all people presenting as homeless; 6. School absenteeism and permanent and fixed term exclusions in secondary schools which are higher than all Wales averages; and 7. Growing numbers of looked after children and care leavers.
1.04	<p>FIYP services have adapted, while ensuring a mix of regular open-access youth clubs and targeted provision. FIYP has:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invested in staff training and development to ensure staff are equipped to meet the needs of diverse children and young people. 2. Given more voice to young people to shape service design. 3. Prioritised flexibility so to respond quickly to emerging priorities and needs. For example, the FIYP Play Development team work with

	<p>Welfare team to deliver a summer food poverty project in 21 communities of need.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Partnered with the third sector to maximise availability of diverse opportunities for young people across Flintshire. 5. Increased joint work with schools to help build confidence and participation of pupils at risk of non-engagement with education. 6. Increased joint work with statutory partners to utilise youth work approaches to prevent problem escalation. For example, integrating youth workers within multidisciplinary teams working with young people at risk of/presenting as homeless and looked after children.
1.05	<p>The pandemic closed youth clubs, outreach services, community-based activities and most schools. FIYP adapted quickly. FIYP introduced:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secure digital, remote services to young people; including online meetings for Flintshire Youth Council, 1:1 support, online youth club for young people with self-harm needs and a Facebook page to share information and advice and encourage contact (see 5.02); 2. Informal education and play activities each day at Resilience Hubs within schools; 3. Policies for safe digital and remote engagement with young people and staff; 4. 'Estyn Llaw – Reaching Out'- a fully bilingual support team to offer on line and face to face services to young people; 5. Additional support for young carers and carers in partnership with NEWCIS and Barnados; 6. Laptops for young people at risk of digital exclusion; 7. More Welsh medium provision within the FIYP; 8. A summer play scheme for children aged 5-12 at 55 sites (within 28 Town and Community Council areas). Across 17-29 August 2020, 1,865 children participated including 30 disabled children supported by volunteer buddies (see 5.03); and 9. Digital methods for FIYP staff meeting, coaching, planning and training.
1.06	<p>FIYP service development will embed lessons from the pandemic response to realise the vision of the Youth Work Strategy for Wales 2019:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Young people are thriving 2. Youth work is accessible and inclusive 3. Voluntary and paid professional youth work staff are supported throughout their careers to improve their practice 4. Youth work is valued and understood 5. A sustainable model for youth work delivery <p>FIYP will sustain and develop digital and remote engagement with young people and staff, safely reopen a more sustainable youth club provision and increase partnering with the third sector and schools to extend reach and impact. Key elements include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Developing digital and remote engagement. This includes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. FIYP is developing new online youth clubs for diverse cohorts of young people. This includes a Welsh language

	<p>youth club involving more than 70 young people and an Inspire youth club for emotional wellbeing.</p> <p>b. Training staff in digital and remote engagement methods;</p> <p>2. FIYP reopening a more sustainable youth club provision. This includes:</p> <p>a. FIYP has risk assessed youth clubs to enable some re-opening in 2020/21 consistent with <i>COVID-19 Guidance</i>.</p> <p>b. FIYP will sustain regular youth club activities at Bryn Garth, Connah's Quay, Flint, Greenfield, Gwernymynydd, Mancot and Sandycroft, Penyffordd, Saltney and Sealand.</p> <p>c. FIYP will develop new provision at Cyfle Hub and support community-based Roc youth club in Mold.</p> <p>d. FIYP transferring management of 8 buildings to schools or as part of a community asset transfer to deliver a potential £98.6k annual savings.</p> <p>3. FIYP increase partnering with the third sector and schools. This includes:</p> <p>a. FIYP has increased youth worker support to young people discharged from hospital (Inspire project) for reasons of self-harm;</p> <p>b. FIYP has recruited a youth homelessness prevention coordinator to oversee a strategic approach to meeting statutory duties to prevent youth homelessness and a prevention worker co-located with housing and social work teams supporting looked after children and care leavers; and</p> <p>c. FIYP will co-locate a four immersion community and school youth workers at five secondary schools every week of every term and school holiday digital support. E.g. sexual health on line provision.</p>
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2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	<p>There are no revenue / capital implications. There are no implications for additional capacity or for any change to current workforce structures or permanent roles. FIYP will achieve staffing savings from the changes to assets. FIYP will meet these through not filling some vacancies.</p> <p>There are no technology implications. Digitally excluded learners' needs have been addressed through Council work, in partnership with schools, as part of the Welsh Government 'Stay Safe. Stay Learning' programme. FIYP has made available digitally-enabled methodologies for staff engagement and participation. This is supported with training /coaching.</p> <p>Asset implications relate to FIYP transfer of three buildings to schools where these are on school-sites and five buildings to the community through community asset transfer. This offers savings of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Premises management savings potential of £70.6k (over 40 % of youth club element of budget) 2. Potential staff savings of £28k (20% saving of youth club element of budget)

	<p>FIYP transfer to schools and associated premises management saving potential :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Broughton £12k 2. Leeswood £7.5k 3. Treuddyn £11k <p>FIYP managed buildings for community asset transfer and associated premises management saving potential:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Carmel £2.8k 5. Deeside £7.9k 6. Greenfield £3.3k 7. Mold £1.5k 8. Penyffordd £11.6k
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3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	<p>Education and Youth (EY) Portfolio Risk Register 2020/21 records the following risks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EY02: Inability to deliver statutory Youth Services due to uncertainty about grant funding. Risk is assessed as 'decreasing'. 2. EY05: Insufficient financial resources to support children and young people's emotional health. Mitigation actions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • digital information, advice and signposting of young people through the FIYP social media platform; • 1:1 digital and remote work and an online youth club for young people with self-harm needs assisted by the Inspire Project; and • Promotion of free resources, such as 'Solihull' approaches to parenting to support parents/carers in managing their children and schools promoting online materials to support the emotional health and wellbeing of young people during school closure.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	<p>Through October 2020 - February 2021, FIYP will consult young people, families, staff and partners to inform and structure these priorities as part of a FIYP plan for 2021-2024 to be launched April 2021.</p>

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Flintshire-Integrated-Youth-Provision/Home.aspx (overview of FIYP including details of all services available for young people and families and information about current provision to reflect the pandemic response)
5.02	https://www.facebook.com/YouthProvisionFlintshire/?ref=nf (dedicated Facebook site for FIYP)
5.03	https://www.leaderlive.co.uk/news/18757183.flintshire-play-schemes-adapt-another-successful-summer/ (<i>Flintshire play schemes adapt for another successful summer</i> article, The Leader, 29 September 2020) and http://www.deeside.com/flintshire-county-councils-summer-playscheme-deemed-a-success-even-with-added-setback-of-covid-19/ (<i>Flintshire County Council's 'Summer Playscheme' deemed a success, even with added setback of COVID-19</i> article, Deeside.Com, 30 September 2020)

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	https://publichealthwales.shinyapps.io/MentalWellbeingInWales/ (mental well-being in Wales)
6.02	https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/1468-4446.12369 (A child's day: trends in time use in the UK from 1975 to 2015)
6.03	https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/PDFFiles/Housing/Flintshire-Housing-Strategy-and-Action-plan-2019-2024.pdf (Flintshire Housing Strategy and Action Plan 2019-2024)
6.04	https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-08/covid-19-guidance-support-youth-work-services-safe-phased-increase-operations.pdf (COVID-19: Guidance to support youth work services with a safe and phased increase of operations)

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Ann Sharman Roberts, Senior Manager, Integrated Youth Provision Telephone: 077 9889 3509 E-mail: ann.roberts@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	AURA: Aura is a charitable, not-for-profit, organisation which, from 1 September 2017, is responsible for managing the majority of leisure

centres and libraries previously operated directly by Flintshire County Council. Aura is owned by its employees and operates for the benefit of local communities in Flintshire,

Education Workforce Council (EWC) EWC is the independent regulator in Wales for youth workers. Since April 2017, youth support workers and youth workers who provide services for or on behalf of a local authority, school, further education institution or voluntary organisation in Wales and who hold relevant qualifications need to be registered with the EWC. In 2021, the EWC will also be responsible for undertaking the accreditation processes as part of the Quality Mark.

Housing Strategy and Action Plan 2019-2024: sets out the Council ambition to provide affordable housing and support across Flintshire, for our residents. The Housing Strategy sets out how we intend to achieve this through working collaboratively with our strategic partners in an intelligent and innovative way to deliver our ambition.

Flintshire New Dragons Youth Project: a weekly club for young people with communication and language difficulties aged 11-17, with young people aged 18+ able to volunteer. The project is led by young people, with support from a communication champion and youth workers. BGC Wales add value through providing accredited training.

Formal, informal and non-formal education

- **Formal education** is the hierarchically structured, chronologically graded 'education system', running from primary school through to university and including, in addition to general academic studies, a variety of specialised programmes and institutions for full-time technical and professional training.
- **Informal education** is the truly lifelong process whereby every individual acquires attitudes, values, skills and knowledge from daily experience and the educative influences and resources in his or her environment – from family and neighbours, work and play, the market place, the library and the mass media.
- **Non-formal education** is any organised educational activity outside the established formal system – whether operating separately or as an important feature of some broader activity – that is intended to serve identifiable learning clienteles and learning objectives.

Inspire: Inspire is a youth work project based out of Wrexham Maelor Hospital supporting young people aged 11-18 years at risk of self-harm who live in Flintshire and Wrexham. The project works closely with CAMHS and partners to build resilience and well-being amongst young people.

NEWCIS: NEWCIS is the largest provider of carer services in Wales. With funding through FIYP and Flintshire Children's Services, they deliver information, 1:1 support, training and counselling to unpaid young carers.

Quality Mark: The Quality Mark, developed by the Welsh Government, is a set of indicators and quality standards that youth work organisations can use to self-assess the quality and impact of their work with young people and develop plans for improvement.

Resilience Hub: 12 Flintshire school sites that have provided childcare for children of key workers identified in the response to COVID-19, where children cannot be kept at home and there is no reasonable alternative.

Stay Safe. Stay Learning: a Welsh Government programme to support digitally excluded learners during the current pandemic. A 'digitally excluded' learner is a pupil without access to an appropriate internet-connected device to participate in online learning activities from home. Local authorities, working closely with their schools, utilise the funding to provide digitally excluded learners with repurposed school devices and 4G MiFi connectivity where required. Replacement devices will then be funded for schools out of a wider technology infrastructure programme.

Targeted provision: provision for specific cohorts of young people (such as young people with disabilities) and/or more vulnerable young people. This includes outreach teams, youth advice and guidance services, services to build emotional resilience and mental well-being, sexual health services and homelessness support.

Youth Support Grant: Annual funding provided to local authorities to enable delivery of open-access and targeted youth work provision, as well as to support coordination of activity to prevent young people from disengaging with education, employment or training.

Youth Support Services: services which encourage, enable or assist young persons (directly or indirectly) to participate effectively in education and training, to take advantage of opportunities for employment, or to participate effectively and responsibly in the life of their communities. Youth support services are provided by local authorities and voluntary and community sector providers.

Youth Work Strategy for Wales: strategy was published in 2019 and sets out a shared vision for the future of youth work in Wales. The strategy sets out an ambitious programme of collaborative action intended to support young people, giving them the opportunities, guidance and experiences in which they can develop personally, socially and academically.

Eitem ar gyfer y Rhaglen 10

Yn rhinwedd paragraff(au) 15 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A
o Ddeddf Llywodraeth Leol 1972.

Dogfen Gyfyngedig - Ni ddylid ei chyhoeddi

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn bwrpasol

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